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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Cooperation Council Meets in Baghdad

Egyptian Prime Minister Arrives

JN1509191289 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1852 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 15 Sep (INA)—Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi arrived in Baghdad today leading a delegation to attend the meetings of the Ministerial Council of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] member states due to begin in Baghdad tomorrow, Saturday. [passage omitted]

Jordanian Prime Minister Attends

JN1609101889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA)—Jordan's Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir arrived in Baghdad today leading the Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council to begin here later today. [passage omitted]

YAR Prime Minister in Baghdad

JN1609102089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA)—Yemen Arab Republic Prime Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani arrived in Baghdad at noon today leading the YAR delegation to the meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council to begin here later today. [passage omitted]

President Receives Prime Ministers

JN1609140189 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA)—President Saddam Husayn today received Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi, Jordanian Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, and Yemen Arab Republic Prime Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, members of the Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council, and their accompanying delegations. [passage omitted]

Ministerial Committee Meets

JN1609153389 Baghdad INA in English 1500 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 16, INA—Meetings of the Ministerial Committee of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), grouping Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, and the Yemen Arab Republic began at the conference palace here this evening.

The Iraqi side to the meetings was headed by Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan, the Revolution Command Council member and first deputy premier, while the Jordanian side was headed by Mr Zayd bin-Shakir, the prime minister, the Egyptian side by Dr 'Atif Sidqi, the premier, and the Yemeni side by Mr 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, the prime minister.

First Session Ends

JN1609181089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1725 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA)—The first session of the Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council ended at the conference palace this evening. The prime ministers of the ACC member states attended the session.

INA has learned that the ACC Ministerial Council has approved the housing and construction agreement among the ACC member states. The agreement will be submitted to the ACC Supreme Council to be endorsed in its final formula.

The Ministerial Council also decided to set up six committees of specialized ministers to prepare agreements in the trade, agriculture, transportation, communications, foreign affairs, parliamentary, judicial, and international affairs areas after studying the remarks made by the participants.

Council Resumes Meetings

JN1609184489 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA)—The Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council resumed its meetings here this evening. It held its second session with the participation of Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister; Dr 'Atif Sidqi, chairman of the Egyptian Council of Ministers; Zayd Bin-Shakir, chairman of the Jordanian Council of Ministers; and 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, chairman of the Yemen Arab Republic Council of Ministers. [passage omitted]

During the second session, the conferees discussed a number of draft agreements submitted by the specialized ministerial committees.

INA has learned that during the second session, the heads of the delegations of the ACC's four countries approved draft agreements in the fields of culture and information, sport and youths cooperation, and education. They also approved the ACC's logo and discussed the ACC General Secretariat's financial budget and drug combatting for the years 1989 and 1990. [passage omitted]

The Ministerial Council is scheduled to resume its meetings tomorrow, Sunday.

Meanwhile, specialized ministerial committees formed by the council will continue their meetings tonight to study the rest of the agreements that were discussed during today's two working sessions in order to refer

them to the Ministerial Council after drafting them in light of the remarks made by the confeeres during today's sessions.

Ministers Conclude Meetings

JN1709140089 Baghdad INA in English 1037 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 17, INA—Ministers of planning of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) member states concluded today their first meeting.

During the meeting, the ministers decided to hold a meeting for their assistants in Baghdad on October 28 to work out the general structure of the planning action in the ACC.

It is to be recalled that the planning ministers started their meeting here this monrning, during which Iraq's Minister of Planning Samal Majid Faraj confirmed that the ACC constitued a basic and necessary prop to realize the sublime targets of the Arabs.

He expressed confidence that the conferees would achieve serious steps towards implementing the tasks of planning coordination and integration to serve the aspired ends and goals within the frame of the ACC grouping Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, and the Yemen Arab Republic.

The Yemeni Development and Planning Minister Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-'Atar stressed in his speech on the importance of concentrating on development in all fields in a manner to serve the ACC economic integration through setting joint plans and debated coordination.

Third Session Resumes

JN1709135289 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 17 Sep (INA)—The Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council resumed its third session at the conference palace at noon today. During this session, the ACC Ministerial Council approved several draft agreements on cooperation among the ACC countries including the organization, employment, and movement of manpower among the ACC countries as well as foreign policy coordination. The draft agreements also include cooperation in fighting drugs, maritime transportation, trade, railway transportation, communications, postal services, ports, and maritime navigation.

The final formulas of these draft agreements will be submitted to the ACC summit scheduled to be held in Sanaa on 25 September. The ACC Ministerial Council also endorsed the ACC General Secretariat's budget for the year 1990 amounting to $1.5 million. [passage omitted]

Council Meeting Concludes

JN1709164389 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] The work of the second meeting of the Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council concluded this afternoon.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, delivered a speech during the meeting, stressing that the results indicate the nature of the new Arab action that prevailed in the sessions and that the conferees worked as one team to achieve the joint goals that can lead our aspirations to be met.

He added that every time the ACC Ministerial Council, the ACC ministers, or the heads of the ACC unions meet, we feel more confident and more reassured that during every meeting at any level we take further steps to achieve new successes through the same enthusiasm, faith, and deep understanding.

RCC Member Holds News Conference

JN1709192689 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] The meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council concluded this evening.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, held a news conference at the end of the meetings of the ACC Ministerial Council. He announced that during its sessions yesterday and today, the ACC Ministerial Council approved 16 draft agreements on cooperation among the ACC countries. He explained that the agreements cover economic, trade, agricultural, foreign policy, housing, construction, parliamentary, cultural, media, educational, drug fighting, drug trafficking, railway, communications, and postal services areas. He added that the agreements also cover ports, maritime navigation, maritime transportation, the organization and employment of manpower, and the selection of the ACC General Secretariat's logo and flag, the organizational structure of the General Secretariat, and the budgets of this year and next.

Ramadan also pointed out that the ACC Ministerial Council has approved in principle the electrical linkage agreement among Iraq, Egypt, and Jordan because these three countries are linked geographically. He added that the ACC Ministerial Council asked the technical committees to prepare technical studies of the linkage project. Ramadan also said that the ACC Ministerial Council has recommended the postponement of the approval of the draft agreements on civil aviation, social security, and land transportation in order to enrich them with further research and study before submitting them to the ACC Ministerial Council's forthcoming meetings.

Ramadan also affirmed that the ACC prime ministers are determined to expand the framework of the agreements and consultations among the ACC countries in the next stage, pointing out that the current stage will witness new steps and cooperation within the popular and democratic framework, because the ACC leaders believe in the need for the popular, vocational, and trade organizations to contribute to the interpretation of the ACC's goals into practice that can serve the Arab nation.

Jordanian Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir and his delegation left Baghdad this evening after attending the meetings of the ACC Ministerial Council, which concluded in Baghdad this evening. Bin-Shakir was accorded an official sendoff led by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member, first deputy prime minister, and head of the Iraqi side to the ACC Ministerial Council meetings; Muhammad Hamzah, minister of transport and communications; a number of ministers; Himli Nammar, ACC secretary general; the Iraqi ambassador in Amman; and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Ministers Sign Cooperation 'Minutes'

JN1809143989 Baghdad INA in English 1350 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 18, INA—The Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) planning ministers concluded here today a minutes [as received] for common cooperation in planning and development after three days of delibrations.

Accordingly, the ACC planning ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen have assented to basics and rules of the major approaches of planning and programmes in the socio-economic developments of their countries, in addition to following up their implemention.

The ministers also necessitated bridging efforts and cooperation in the domains of statistics and exchange of experiences and scientific cadres among their ministries.

They also focused on coordination of orders and regulations concerning investment, as a step towards drawing up a common venturing policy to the aim of carrying out economic projects in the ACC member states within an agreed time limit.

On the other hand, the ACC ministerial body had ended its sessions here yesterday after endorsing 16 draft agreements in the fields of economy, trade, agriculture, culture, transport, communications, and foreign affairs in preparation to referring them to the ACC summit due in Sanaa on 25 instant for final approval.

Prime Ministers Depart Baghdad

JN1709200089 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Yemen Arab Republic [YAR] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani and his delegation left Baghdad this evening after participating in the meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council Ministerial Council. [passage omitted]

Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and his delegation left Baghdad this evening after participating in the meetings of the ACC Ministerial Council. [passage omitted]

'Arafat Seeking 'To Normalize' Libya-Egypt Ties

JN1909111089 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The newspaper AL-BAYAN has cited informed Palestinian sources as saying that Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, who arrived in Libya yesterday from Cairo, has, for several days, been exerting great efforts to normalize the Libyan-Egyptian relations and to reach an understanding that would lead to holding a summit between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The sources added that President 'Arafat, who paid several visits to Cairo and Tripoli during the past 10 days, has made tangible progress toward holding a meeting between President Mubarak and al-Qadhdhafi in Cairo, especially since the two sides have shown a serious desire to promote bilateral relations.

Iran-Iraq Geneva Meetings Described as 'Useful'

LD2408214989 Kuwait KUNA in English 1710 GMT 24 Aug 89

[Text] Geneva, Aug 24 (KUNA)—The technical meetings of Ambassador Jan Eliasson, personal representative of the UN secretary general, with the delegates of Iraq and Iran was described Thursday as 'useful'.

Briefing newsmen this evening, the director of the UN Information Department, Therese Gastaut, said the purpose of the meeting was to discuss with the two parties the need for more rapid implementation of the Security Council Resolution 598.

In his two seperate meetings with Ambassador Riyadh al-Qaysi of Iraq and the deputy foreign minister of Iran, Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, the UN representative reportedly discussed different ways in which the process of implementing the above resolution could be speeded up.

According to Therese Gastaut, the meetings may be seen as preparatory diplomatic work for the forthcoming Belgrade summit where the UN secretary general would be meeting the heads of the delegations of Iraq and Iran.

Another meeting between Eliasson and Ambassador Al-Qaysi is scheduled for Friday morning.

Both the meetings—the one held Wednesday with the Iraqi ambassador and the other today with the Iranian minister lasted for more than two and half hours each, it is learnt.

Arab League Statement Supports Namibian Struggle

LD2508172989 Kuwait KUNA in English 1533 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis, Aug 25 (KUNA)—The Arab League Friday renewed the principled and stable Arab stance in support of the Namibian heroic struggle led by SWAPO [South West African People's Organization] to realize independence.

The League statement, on the occasion of the international day for solidarity with the Namibian people, expressed backing the UN efforts to execute Security Council Resolution 435 on independence of that African country.

The statement called for accurate and full implementation of the international resolution so that the Namibian people be allowed to reflect its will in total freedom away from interferences and conspiracies of the South African racial regime that is occupying that country.

In conclusion, the Arab League Secretariat hoped that settling the Namibian question would be a model for solving the Palestine problem which does not essentially differ from the Namibian case.

Palestinian Affairs

Palestinian Source Cited on 'Arafat-Frayj Meeting

JN1609063089 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Sep 89 p 1

[By P.V. Vivekanand, JORDAN TIMES staff writer]

[Text] Amman—A senior Palestinian source has confirmed that Elyas Frayj, mayor of the occupied West Bank city of Bethlehem, met with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis last week but denied a report that the mayor had suggested that a delegation exclusively made up of representatives of the Palestinians living in the occupied territories be authorised to open talks with Israel.

"What Frayj suggested to 'Arafat was that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accept the concept of elections in the occupied territories and authorise a delegation made up of Palestinians living in the occupied territories as well as outside to open contacts with Israel," said the source.

The source, talking to the JORDAN TIMES on condition of anonymity, rejected reports that the meeting in Tunis, where the PLO is headquartered, was an "official" PLO Executive Committee meeting. "It was an informal gathering which was attended by several PLO Executive Committee members as well as Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz and the Iraqi ambassador to Tunisia," said the source.

According to the source, Frayj told 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO, that he accept the idea of "free, fair and democratic elections in the occupied territories" and that the PLO authorise a delegation to open talks with the Israeli authorities on the issue. [sentence as published] Frayj, mayor of Bethlehem since 1972, reaffirmed that "the PLO leadership was the sole authority to name the negotiators and that the authorisation should be made in public."

The source said Frayj did not suggest any Palestinians in the occupied territories as members of the proposed team.

It was the first meeting between Frayj and 'Arafat since 1985 and followed what then appeared to be a rift between the mayor of the biblical city and the chairman of the PLO in 1987. The rift was prompted by a call that Frayj made in a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for a moratorium on all forms of Israeli-Palestinian violence. The call was taken to imply a "unilateral truce" in the ongoing intifadah in the occupied territories and sparked harsh words from the PLO leadership as well as Palestinian hardliners.

According to the source, Frayj had "in fact suggested a total one-year freeze in all forms of violence between Israelis and Palestinians, whether inside or outside the occupied territories, and that the Security Council invite the PLO and Israel as well as all other parties involved in the confict to a meeting."

The source refused to characterise the Tunis encounter as "reconciliation" between Frayj and 'Arafat and said "there was never any difference" between them.

It was not known whether the Israeli occupation authorities will take any action against Frayj for having met the leaders of the PLO. Israeli law bans all such contacts and stipulates prosecution of violators on grounds that the PLO is a "terrorist organisation."

According to the source who spoke to the JORDAN TIMES Thursday, Frayj, widely seen as part of the "moderate Palestinian camp" in the occupied territories, briefed 'Arafat and other PLO leaders on the situation in the occupied territories after 21 months of the intifadah, and called for "political action to break the present deadlock."

Frayj "believes that such action should come through shaking the status quo by initiating contacts with the Israeli authorities," the source said. "And the best way to do that is to name people who can discuss (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir's plan for elections."

The Bethlehem mayor, who passed through Amman on his way back from Tunis, made it clear to the PLO leaders that "the framework, modalities and legislation (of elections) have to be approved by the PLO, Egypt, the United States and Israel."

'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad From Tripoli

JN1909195689 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1828 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Brother leader President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Baghdad from Tripoli at noon today on an official visit of several days to fraternal Iraq.

A number of senior Iraqi officials were at the airport to welcome brother leader President Abu-'Ammar.

Milhim Says Egyptian Ideas 'Insufficient'

JN1809145589 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 17 Sep 89 p 18

['Abdallah Hamdan dispatch from Amman]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim has welcomed the statements attributed to Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in which he called on the Arab countries to discuss the new Egyptian plan on the Palestine question.

Milhim told AL-WATAN that the recent Arab summit stressed the need to obtain an Arab blessing of all proposals aimed at resolving the Palestine question. Therefore, he added, the PLO emphasizes that any initiative on the issue should be in line with the resolutions adopted by the Arab summits.

Asked about the Egyptian proposal to ask him and Akram Haniyah to take part in the suggested negotiations with the Israelis on the Egyptian plan, he said: I read the two names in the newspapers and this was not discussed during the recent Executive Committee meetings in Tunis.

He pointed out that the recent Egyptian proposals cannot be termed an initiative or a plan, but mere questions aimed at sounding the Israeli ideas prior to the Egyptian president's visit to the United States and his meeting with U.S. President George Bush. He added: Nevertheless, these questions did not receive specific answers, a matter which affirms that Israel continues to refuse to comply with the desire of the international community to find a solution to the Palestine question.

Milhim added that the PLO will continue its intensive contacts with the Egyptian leaders because the Egyptian ideas are insufficient and the subject should be linked with the entire political process.

He said similar contacts will soon be held with the Saudi officials as well as the European community and Swedish officials in order to work out an integrated peace plan.

He hoped that President Mubarak's anticipated visit to the United States would lead to a tangible progress in the efforts being exerted to find a solution to the Palestine question.

Al-Qadhdhafi Refuses To Aid Palestinian Factions

JN1809152389 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 17 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that the visit made by a delegation from the Lebanese parties and factions of the "Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF]" to Tripoli at the beginning of this month failed to convince the Libyan leadership of resuming material and military support which Libya terminated some time ago.

Leading Lebanese and Palestinian sources in Damascus have revealed to AL-ITTIHAD that the Libyan leadership informed the delegation that it currently gives higher priority to treating the internal economic conditions and developing its relations with the outside world.

These sources cited Libyan Leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi as telling them that "for the past 20 years, we have been building the revolution; and, now, we must begin building the Libyan state."

The sources explained that the meeting of the delegation of the Lebanese parties and the PNSF factions [with al-Qadhdhafi] took place 15 days after the delegation's arrival and after its members decided to leave Tripoli. However, they were taken back from the airport after a quick meeting with the Libyan leader was arranged.

PLO Reportedly Agrees to Talks With Israel

JN1909171989 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 18 Sep 89 p 21

[Excerpts] Cairo, AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM and agencies—Egypt has intensified its peace efforts by inviting a prominent Israeli minister to visit it and offering to host direct talks between the Palestinians and Israel to discuss the future of occupied West Bank and Gaza. [passage omitted]

A senior official source in Cairo stressed to AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM that the talks which Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat held in Cairo Saturday with the Egyptian president and Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid resulted in the Palestinian leadership's acceptance of holding Palestinian-Israeli talks in Cairo on the 10 points proposed by President Mubarak for holding elections in the occupied territories within the framework of a comprehensive solution to the Palestine question. [passage omitted]

Fatah Uprising Statement Criticizes Election Plan

JN1809124889 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1048 GMT 18 Sep 89

["Political statement" issued by Fatah-the Uprising Movement]

[Text] Our militant masses, and those who are forging the glorious intifadah [uprising]: the intifadah enters its 22d month, affirming that you exceed all expectations. The intifadah is being perpetuated and gaining momentum, while signs of weakness clearly appear

within the ranks of the killers and occupiers. With your insistence, you daily affirm that the intifadah is the option, liberation is the objective, victory is the means, and the people are invincible.

Masses of our militant people and heroes of the daily confrontations, the intifadah is our only option and there is no substitute for it. We will not permit its abortion by the enemies or the senile bargainers. Bullets are lethal. The same applies to all the vile conspiracies that are put forth by the enemies and which seek to find a political solution for the intifadah. The election plan is one of the most serious of these conspiracies. What kind of independence will be brought about by elections under the supervision and management of the killers, the men of the Zionist intelligence service?

We have affirmed our stand on this conspiratorial plan which seeks to distract our people's attention, divide their militant unity, and then wipe out the intifadah. You have rejected Shamir's liquidatory plan. You must also say no to all those who meet with the emblems of occupation and bargain over the martyrs' blood. Let us discard these from the ranks of our people.

Our great masses, conducting a dialogue with the United States is the same as holding a direct dialogue with the Zionists because U.S. imperialism is our people's mortal enemy. You and the wagerers—although they turn a blind eye—have noticed that the hostile stand adopted by U.S. imperialism toward our people and their cause continues to be the same and has not changed one iota. U.S. imperialism also continues to ask for more concessions in spite of the gratuitous concessions that it offered under many pretexts such as the exploitation of the intifadah and supporting it, and the adoption of a realistic and flexible course. How long will these concessions continue to be made, concessions which conflict with the militant course of our people's intifadah?

Our generous masses, the Fifth Fatah Congress took place while we were hoping that the national bases and cadres within Fatah would oppose the policy of concessions with respect to our inalienable rights. However, this congress approved the sell-out resolutions of the 19th Palestine National Council, which recognized Resolutions 242 and 338 and the Zionist entity, and adopted dialogue and negotiations with the enemy as a substitute for armed struggle, which was viewed by this session as terrorism, and disavowed it.

Our militant masses, let us scorch the earth under the Zionists feet and form more popular committees and strike forces, and let us abide by education and by the general strikes. Let us decisively strike at all the manifestations of indiscipline and recklessness, confront the tax collection campaign, and continue to boycott Israeli goods. Let us also support our hero workers and enhance their militant stand and their abidance by the strikes. Let us work to facilitate their rights and stop all types of blackmail and exploitation to which they are subjected.

Let the intifadah continue and escalate. We remain faithful to our pledge. Glory and immortality to our people's martyrs. A laurel to all the wounded heroes, and ignominy and humiliation to all the traitors.

[Signed] The Palestinian National Liberation Movement-Fatah the uprising

PLO Executive Committee Member To Meet Rabin

NC1909181089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has said he is willing to meet with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin within a Palestinian delegation representing the Palestinian people. He said that the PLO does not accept preconditions for holding such a dialogue, the purpose of which is presumed to be to allow each party to present its position and arguments.

PLO Radio on Solving 'Lebanese Question'

JN1909204189 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1840 GMT 19 Sep 89

["Reading of the Political Situation" feature: "What is the Mechanism of the Arab Role?"]

[Text] Brothers, all experiences confirm that even if international powers agree on resolving a regional problem, [word indistinct] must be provided among [words indistinct] or local powers that undertake the implementation of this agreement or formulate its articles. In order not to move too far from [words indistinct] and the means to find a solution and defuse factors of explosion and tensions. Despite the international unanimity on the need to put an end to the Lebanese tragedy, this international unanimity does not implement a solution and does not offer a solution to the tragedy. Hence, it was necessary to set up the tripartite Arab committee which reached a formula solution. This committee has been considered the mechanism of the Arab role to solve the Lebanese question. It is a mechanism that has a great opportunity to achieve success due to its legitimacy and because it is based on Arab and international unanimity.

This is exactly what we mean when talk about the need to find a mechanism of the Arab role to resolve the Palestine question. It is not required that the Arabs explain their stand or position [word indistinct]. No Arab summit is currently required to declare an integrated political stand on the Palestine question. Such a stand was declared at the Casablanca summit. What is required is that this Arab stand and unanimity on means to resolve the Palestine question—unanimity

that is based on Palestinian legitimacy and international unanimity—create a mechanism and present to the world a logical and coherent mechanism to resolve the issue of the Palestinian-Israeli, Arab-Zionist conflict.

The issue is not that of declaring solidarity with the Palestinian people and their intifadah [uprising] and revolution; neither it is that of doing just anything to avoid the blame. The issue is that of a [words indistinct] Arab role. Within this context, we say it is not sufficient to entrust an Arab party with finding this formula or mechanism for a solution. Such a mechansim must enjoy Arab unanimity and Arab legitimacy. Hence, such a historic mission should not be given to Cairo, Riyadh, Baghdad, or Algiers. Rather, a committee comprising the capitals holding the Arab decisionmaking must be set up to shoulder such an important responsibility.

This is the historic role if there is anybody looking for a historic role and this is the mechanism of the Arab role. Will the Arabs assume this mission?

Organization Claims Responsibility for Carmel Fire

JN2009094089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] In the West Bank, a secret Palestinian organization calling itself Direct Revenge [al-Intiqam al-Mubashir] has claimed responsibility for the fire which destroyed approximately 80 hectares of forest area on Mount Carmel, near Haifa. Ten Israelis were also injured in the fire.

Another Group 'Claims Credit'

JN2009095589 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] An unknown Palestinian organization calling itself Immediate Revenge [al-Tha'r al-Fawriy] has claimed credit for the huge fire that destroyed 800 hectares [as heard] of forest on the slopes of Mount Carmel near the city of Haifa yesterday.

In Amman today, AFP received another statement signed by the Islamic Jihad Organization-Jerusalem claiming responsibility for starting the fire.

Egypt

Further Coverage of Reaction to 10-Point Plan

Israeli Reaction Noted

JN1909092089 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 18 Sep 89 pp 10-12

[By Jamal-al-Din Husayn and 'Abir 'Abd-al-Halim]

[Text] After a silence which lasted more than 2 months, Israeli papers suddenly became interested in the 10 points proposed by Egypt to further the peace process in the region, and to ensure free elections for the Palestinians in the occupied territory without the interference of the Israeli occupation forces.

Israeli politicians quarreled over the 10 points. Some of them supported the points in principle and others rejected them also in principle, and yet others rejected even the idea of discussing them.

Egypt sent these points to the United States last July through a congressman who visited Cairo. The United States, in turn, sent them to Israel. But this method angered Israel, which wanted to receive them through its ambassador in Cairo on the basis that it is a new official initiative by Egypt. However, Egypt considers the points as mere questions requesting Israeli pledges concerning its election plan for the occupied territory.

The full text of these 10 points is as follows:
1. Israel's pledge to accept any results produced by the elections.
2. Supervision of the elections by international observers.
3. Guaranteeing full protection for all the elected representatives.
4. Withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the voting areas during the elections.
5. Israel's pledge to begin the negotiations over the final status of the occupied Arab territories at an agreed date, provided this date is fixed in advance.
6. Cessation of all Israeli settlement activities.
7. Complete freedom for the candidates to conduct election campaigns.
8. Banning all Israelis from entering the occupied territories during the elections.
9. Participation of East Jerusalem residents in the elections.
10. Israel's prior acceptance of the four basic principles on which U.S. policy in the Middle East is based as specified by the State Department during the past few months; namely, that the resolution of the issue must be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the exchange of land for peace, guaranteeing the security of all the states in the region, and guaranteeing the political rights of the Palestinians.

Although Israel obtained these points approximately 2 months ago, it maintained complete silence over them in the media. It also tried to bargain over them when Shamir proposed a meeting with President Mubarak to clarify Israel's position on these points, and declared his approval.

He also expressed his approval for the participation of the residents of occupied East Jerusalem in the elections, provided their voting takes place in a nearby town outside Jerusalem.

President Mubarak, however, did not welcome the idea of meeting with Shamir, considering that a summit meeting "merely to have tea" does not serve the peace process in the region. Cairo also rejected Shamir's idea of the Jerusalem residents casting their votes outside the city. Later, Shamir retreated from this point.

The 10 points created divisions inside Israel, especially between the leaders of the two main political parties in the coalition government: the Likud and the Alignment.

Shamir stressed that his plan, without amendments or additions, was the basis for negotiations. This is why he continued to refuse to discuss the Egyptian questions at the Israeli Cabinet meetings for several weeks, because he considered them as conditions for conducting elections in the occupied territories, something which Israel rejects. David Levi, deputy prime minister and second man after Shamir, also considered discussion of the 10 points to be a violation of the Israeli Government's decision banning the discussion of any new initiative before any Arab side accepts the Israeli plan. The extremist Tehiya Movement also issued a statement in which it warned against the Egyptian proposals, because they were a natural extension to Shamir's plan, which it considered as offering big concessions to the Arabs that could lead to the isolation of Israel!

The Alignment, which is led by Shim'on Peres, announced that the Egyptian points were a good basis for holding unofficial talks on elections in the occupied territories. Peres agreed on eight points only. He supported Shamir on the need for east Jerusalem residents to vote outside Jerusalem. He rejected negotiations with the PLO. This prompted 'Arafat's Political Adviser Bassam Abu-Sharif to express readiness to leave for Israel to hold talks with any Labor Party official on the 10 points, whether it is Defense Minister Rabin or any other official, if the Labor Party seriously supported them. However, Shamir's office announced that Abu-Sharif would be arrested and would face trial on terrorism charges if he did go. The PLO also announced that Bassam Abu-Sharif was not authorized to make this statement.

However, not all the Labor Party leaders have agreed on the Egyptian 10 points. Yitzhaq Rabin, defense minister and one of the Labor Party leaders, has strongly rejected them.

Observers noted that despite the ostensible differences between the two poles of the coalition on the Egyptian 10 points, none of the four members of the Israeli Inner

Cabinet that discussed the 10 points, has called for deviating from Shamir's plan or introducing amendments to it.

Despite this, the Israeli press has exaggerated differences between Shamir and Peres on the Egyptian 10 points to a point where the newspaper MA'ARIV said that Mubarak would certainly succeed in one thing, if he hadn't already done so, namely, suffocating the shaky peace within Israel's national coalition government.

Contrary to Israel, the U.S. Government, through the State Department spokesman, welcomed the Egyptian 10 points. It said that if the Egyptian points help find a means to begin an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue on elections, it welcomed Egypt's efforts. This caused distress inside Israel. This was explained by the Israeli newspaper HADASHOT, which said that the enthusiasm that the Egyptian plan gained in Washington should raise Israel's concern. The ball, which was in the Egyptian-Palestinian court following the election plan, is now in the Israeli court through President Mubarak's initiative.

Many Palestinian leaders inside and outside the occupied territories showed understanding of the Egyptian 10 points and welcomed them, while other leaders either expressed reservations on the points, or rejected them. At the forefront of the leaders who welcomed the Egyptian 10 points were Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee Member Mahmud 'Abbas, and PLO Representative in Cairo Sa'id Kamal.

However, the PLO Executive Committee decided to postpone replying officially to these points at a later time. This was stated by a ranking PLO official to REUTER although the Tunisian paper (?LE TEMPS) had reported that the PLO supports the 10 points provided they are within the framework of a comprehensive settlement

Faruq Qaddumi had stated that the Egyptian points are not an initiative but questions put forth by Egypt to Israel to clarify the nature of Shamir's election plan in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

It seems that the PLO is waiting for Israel to state its stand on these points before announcing its official stand on them.

At the same time, other Palestinian leaders have expressed reservations toward the 10 points, such as Sulayman al-Najjab, PLO Central Council member; Bassam al-Shak'ah, former Nabulus mayor; and Sa'id Kan'an. The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine issued a press statement saying that the 10 points are not in line with the Casablanca summit resolutions.

In spite of all this, many U.S., Israeli, and Palestinian sources have mentioned that Egypt is currently seeking to initiate talks between a Palestinian and an Israeli delegation in Cairo soon in the presence of international parties. Some of the Palestinian figures whose names have been mentioned are figures in the occupied territories who are well known for their support of the PLO, such as Faysal al-Husayni, Fayiz abu-Rahmah, Hanna Sinyurah, and two others at least from the Palestinian leaders outside the occupied territories.

However, there are political and diplomatic circles which are skeptical about the possibility of the Shamir Government responding to the Egyptian 10-point peace proposals, especially in light of the three no's which govern the moves of the Likud and Yitzhaq Shamir. These no's are the following: No to a Palestinian state; no to the PLO; no to an international conference. But, these circles believe that the U.S. and European stands could constitute, at this stage, a positive pressure factor to give momentum to the efforts for a peaceful settlement, and that this requires the United States in particular to clearly define its concept of the Palestinian political rights, which the U.S. President mentioned during his previous nmeetings with President Husni Mubarak, King Husayn, and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Such a clear definition may expedite the peace process. From this premise, this issue will be one of the most important topics Presidents Mubarak and Bush will discuss during their meeting next month.

This is what President Yasir 'Arafat had referred to in his statements to the Egyptian press in Tunis. He said that Egypt is undertaking efforts to form a joint Egyptian-Palestinian delegation for conducting ta!ks on peace in the region, and that he hopes these Egyptian efforts will produce the expected results in the near future, particularly during President Mubarak's visits to the United States and Europe.

Columnist on 10 Points

JN1909190989 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 18 Sep 89 p 1

["Calmly" column by Ibrahim Nafi': "Rabin: Will he Come With Positive Responses?"]

[Text] Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin arrives in Cairo today on a negotiating mission during which he will meet with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, concerning Cairo's efforts to move the peace process forward from the stalemate it had reached in the previous period. This mission requires that Mubarak receive the Israeli defense minister to hear the Israeli Government's views regarding the clarifications President Mubarak had demanded earlier concerning the Israeli election plan in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. These clarifications were based on 10 points and have been termed Mubarak's initiative to break the current deadlock in the Middle East peace process.

It should be stressed that this was not really the formulation of an initiative as much as points for clarification presented by President Mubarak. If the answers to these clarifications are all positive, then the way will be wide open for actual and practical movement of the peace

process. Thus, it represents the bases and framework for direct negotiations to be held between a Palestinian delegation chosen from West Bankers inside and outside [the West Bank] and a delegation from the other party to be chosen by Israel. The idea of holding such a meeting in Cairo is still feasible.

I am sure that this talk about points of clarification, which have become an initiative, began in July when a delegation from the U.S. Congress visited Cairo headed by William Gray, the third-ranking man in the democratic majority in Congress. When the delegation met with President Mubarak, they discussed possible ways and means to reactivate the peace process in the Middle East from the dangerous stalemate it has witnessed for a long time. The president explained to the congressional delegation that he had studied Israel's plan for holding elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to elect representatives for the Palestinians to negotiate with the Israelis. The president noted that he had found many points on matters of great importance that needed specific clarification from the Israelis.

Members of the U.S. congressional delegation asked President Mubarak whether they could take these queries with them to Israel on the delegation's next visit there. He gave them his approval by listing the queries in the form of 10 specific points. The most important points concern the following: an Israeli pledge to accept the results of the elections; international observers to supervise the elections; Israeli troop withdrawal from the voting stations; fixing the date for the start of talks on the final situation of the occupied territories; ending all settlement building in the West Bank and Gaza Strip; banning Israelis from entering the West Bank and Gaza Strip on the day elections are held; allowing participation of east Jerusalem residents in the elections; Israel's acceptance of the four principles of U.S. policy on the Middle East, which includes the two Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as a basis for a solution to the dispute, and the principle of exchanging land for peace; guaranteeing security for all countries in the region; and recognizing the fixed political rights of the Palestinian people. Naturally, the elections would then be a means to a final solution and not an attempt to revive the idea of autonomy which, Mubarak said, had died and been superseded by events.

The president believed that it is important to send the clarifications which the congressional delegation carried to Israel, to President 'Arafat. As far as I know, President Yasir 'Arafat welcomed the idea of receiving a positive response to these clarifications from Israel because they form a framework for holding peaceful negotiations to recognize legitimate rights.

However, what happened was that President Mubarak received neither a positive nor a negative response from the Israeli Government. He was then surprised—while on a visit to the SFRY—at Israel's rejection of President Mubarak's initiative which it had not discussed beforehand. After the Israeli announcement, differences among the Israeli leaders emerged. Yitzhaq Shamir, as he is accustomed to do, rejected the initiative and Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres accepted it in principle. And last week, Yitzhaq Shamir announced that he had not received the 10 points officially and therefore found it difficult to give an official opinion on them, despite the sharp discussions that took place openly within the Israeli Government regarding the 10 points.

In light of this, Egypt asked its ambassador to Israel to convey a memorandum to the Israeli Government containing the official text of the 10 clarifications on the elections plan in the West Bank and Gaza. In the memorandum, Egypt asked for an official response from Yitzhaq Shamir.

Egypt then agreed to today's visit to Egypt by Yitzhaq Rabin in the hope that he might bring clear and definite responses that would help achieve Egypt's objective, which is understood and supported by the U.S. Administration, to activate the peace process in the Middle East.

I am not giving away any secrets if I say—on the arrival of Yitzhaq Rabin in Egypt today—that President Mubarak has agreed to meet Moshe Arens, Israeli foreign minister; and Shim'on Peres, Israeli Labor Party leader and finance minister, in New York during the president's upcoming visit to the United States. And it is no secret either to say that President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] was aware of all these Egyptian moves, whether through his recent series of visits to Egypt or through meeting with President Mubarak at recent international conferences—on the basis that the PLO under the leadership of Abu-'Ammar is the first to make its decision, which it is still studying thoroughly and carefully with other Palestinian leaders. This is because they are confident that Egypt takes each of its steps concerning the Palestine question out of its full conviction in the legitimate rights [of Palestinians] and from its deep desire to achieve a fair, just, and comprehensive peace without yielding, concessions, or international showmanship.

Perhaps, Yitzhaq Rabin will arrive today with positive responses to the Egyptian proposals.

PLO's Milhim on 10 Points

NC1909141789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Amman, 19 Sep (MENA)—PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim has paid tribute to President Husni Mubarak's efforts to reactivate the peace process. He said the purpose of these efforts is to help the Palestinian people attain their right to self-determination.

In an exclusive statement to MENA correspondent in Amman, Milhim said Egypt's 10 points aim to clear the obstacles obstructing the peace march in the region, particularly after U.S.-Palestinian dialogue had reached

a dead end over the elections issue and Israel's attempts to turn it into a central issue.

Milhim noted that the 10 points represent an attempt to sidestep this obstacle in order to get to the main topic; that is, the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

Milhim stressed that an indirect dialogue between the PLO and Israel is currently going on, despite the latter's objection to hold a dialogue with the PLO. This dialogue had started with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens' latest visit to Cairo at the same time when Yasir 'Arafat was there. Milhim pointed out that the purpose of 'Arafat's visits to Cairo is to get these 10 points clarified so that the Palestinian leadership can take a definite stand on them.

Al-Tarifi on Mubarak's Plan

NC1909160689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 19 Sep (MENA)—Jamil al-Tarifi, a prominent Palestinian figure in the occupied territories, has stressed the importance of the Egyptian role in resolving the Palestinian problem. He said the current Egyptian stand is characterized by two main features: Egypt's emphasis on the fact that the Egyptian-Israeli peace accord should not be taken as an isolated peace treaty, but rather as a prologue to a just and comprehensive peace in the region; and Egypt's unceasing concern for the Palestinian cause and interests.

In an interview with a MENA correspondent, Al-Tarifi asserted that Palestinians in the occupied territories welcome Egypt's endeavors to initiate a political drive to resolve the issue, particularly in view of Israel's insistence on its election plan and the Arab and Palestinian rejection of this plan in the form proposed by Israel.

Al-Tarifi, who was ousted by the Israeli authorities from his post as al-Birah deputy mayor, which he held from 1976 until 1982, said the Egyptian action took the form of 10 questions. He asserted that the Palestinian people have no reservations whatsoever on these questions, which mostly concern procedural matters connected with the elections and are designed to ensure that the elections are run in a free and democratic atmosphere under non-Israeli supervision. He declared that the points touch on specific objective matters pertaining to the participation of East Jerusalem Arabs in the election process. This, Al-Tarifi said, asserts Palestinian sovereignty over East Jerusalem.

Al-Tarifi pointed out that the 10 points outline the principles of a final resolution and stress that such a resolution should be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the land-for-peace principle, and the safeguarding of the political rights of the Palestinians and the security of all the countries in the region. He noted that these points were emphasized earlier in the U.S concept of a solution.

Commenting on the assertion that the 10 points make no reference to the PLO, Al-Tarifi expressed his conviction that Egypt adopts the Palestinian concept of self-determination and that it does not ignore the PLO. He pointed in this regard to the constant meetings and consultations between President Husni Mubarak and Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat.

Touching on the present Israeli stand, Al-Tarifi said that the Israeli Government's view in the wake of the visit to Egypt by Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has not been clearly defined yet.

Al-Tarifi siad that the Palestinian people, both inside and outside the occupied territories, support the idea of elections. He asked, however, how these elections could be run and how real guarantees could be provided. He noted that the idea of elections is accepted as a step along the road to a comprehensive solution. However, he added, if Israel views the elections as a final step, then we reject them. He stressed that the Palestine National Council was very clear in its peace-oriented resolutions.

Al-Tarifi denied that the visit to Egypt by a number of Palestinian figures from the occupied territories had anything to do with Yasir 'Arafat's visit or with any present activity in Cairo. He said: We are always careful to visit Egypt because we believe that Egypt and the Palestinians are in the same trench. He went on to say that the purpose of these visits is to brief Egyptian officials on the conditions of Palestinians in the occupied territories, and to hold consultations on the political situation in general.

Al-Tarifi asserted that the PLO can only be robbed of its representation of the Palestinian people in one event: the entire annihilation of the Palestinian people. He pointed out that the intifadah [uprising] has become a daily characteristic of the Palestinians' way of life, and that all Palestinians are now determined not to stop the intifadah until a political solution which meets the minimal possible political demands of the Palestinians is reached.

Al-Tarifi noted that Arab support for Palestinians living in the occupied territories is insufficient, and that some express their backing in newspapers only, without giving real support. He stressed that all Arab states must know that the Palestinian people's struggle in the occupied territories is in defense of the entire Arab nation.

'Tension' in Relations With Israel Noted

JN1609174489 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 15 Sep 89 pp 1, 2

[By 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Text] Tension in Egyptian-Israeli relations escalated during the past 2 days. Earlier, President Husni Mubarak accused Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir of torpedoing peace efforts in the Middle East region.

AL-WAFD has learned that President Mubarak has turned down a new U.S. request to hold an urgent meeting with Shamir in Cairo, Washington, or Tel Aviv. President Mubarak stressed to the U.S. Administration through the Egyptian Embassy in Washington that Shamir's current stands do not encourage holding a meeting with him. President Mubarak expressed his readiness to visit Tel Aviv in case the Israeli Government agreed on the Egyptian proposals on elections in the occupied Arab territories and accepted the PLO as a party to any negotiations on the comprehensive settlement of the Palestine question. After U.S. insistence, President Mubarak has agreed to hold a meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly meetings in New York at the end of this month to discuss the recent Egyptian peace initiative and the differences between Cairo and Tel Aviv.

AL-WAFD also learned that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has agreed to hold an Egyptian-Israeli meeting on the experts level in Cairo within a few days to discuss problems related to navigation in the Gulf of Aqaba and the continued violation by Israeli tourist boats of Egyptian territorial waters. The two sides will also discuss the alleviation of the current state of tension along the Egyptian-Israeli border which erupted following the Israeli accusations that Egyptian security personnel facilitated the infiltration of fedayeen into the occupied Arab territories to participate in the popular intifadah [uprising] against the Zionist occupation troops.

At the end of last month, Egypt refused to receive a three-member Israeli delegation to discuss border problems.

Security Authorities Arrest Pro-Iranian Suspect

JN1609115689 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 14 Sep 89 p 3

[Excerpt] Cairo—AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I has learned from Egyptian sources that Dr Muhammad Mandur, member of the Arab Human Rights Organization, has been arrested following his return from a scientific trip to Austria. He was referred to the Supreme State Security Prosecution for interrogation. The doctor's name came up repeatedly during the interrogations that took place with the members of the pro-Iranian organization recently uncovered in Egypt. [passage omitted]

'Abd-al-Majid on Palestinian-Israeli Dialogue

NC1509213989 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that Egypt would welcome the holding of a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Cairo to achieve a lasting peaceful solution. In a telephone interview with Monte Carlo radio aired tonight, 'Abd-al-Majid noted that President Husni Mubarak currently plays a major role in contacts with the two sides and that Cairo is a venue that is acceptable to all.

AL-WAFD Party Leader on Government Policy

JN1609150689 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 14 Sep 89 pp 1, 4

[Column by Fu'ad Siraj-al-Din, AL-WAFD party leader and AL-WAFD board chairman: "Egypt First, Mr President"]

[Text] There is no denying President Husni Mubarak's efforts in the foreign policy realm. His efforts in this domain pay dividends for Egypt and enhance its standing in the Africa arena and among the nonaligned and Third World nations. Thanks to improvised policies and faulty calculations, at one time Egypt had forfeited its external influence, leading to an erosion of its global role. The past few years, though, have seen Egypt regain its stature and resume its natural role. Consider President Mubarak, as current OAU chairman, working on a reconciliation between Mauritania and Senegal and exerting himself on behalf of a settlement of the Namibian problem. Egyptians are gratified to see their president thus engaged. More heartwarming is to see the president taking time off to tackle Egypt's own problems, which have become so intractable as to have grown virtually intolerable for the people. The toiling masses are having to suffer runaway inflation without a respite in sight, and the economic crisis has deteriorated to such an extent that the fabric of society is now at stake. And the housing crisis—for all the efforts of the housing minister—now casts its gloomy shadow over the society. And the people are denied security as they see external debts getting larger and larger with the state unable even to service them.

All these problems claim the president's time and effort. Responsibility has been placed in the hands of the Presidency, given that it is the institution where power is concentrated, and there is no room for contending that the government is in a position to come up with definitiave solutions. Since the 1952 July revolution, the government has been something of a ghost that has had no choice but to carry out the dictates of the ruler. This state of affairs has been enshrined in the Constitution charted by the revolutionary order without consulting the will of the nation. Thus the decisionmaking has been concentrated in the hands of the rulers, with the council of ministers acting as if it were a shadow cabinet and the head of state a dominant figure running virtually all government affairs, both domestically and externally. If we place such responsibility for tackling intractable problems in the hands of the president, it is because he is the top executive under the Constitution and, for all intents and purposes, controls the legislature. He is the one who names the appointed members of the People's Assembly and its speaker as well as the president of the Consultative Council, the prime minister, and the governors.

All these are employees of the Presidency; if the people felt that the government were capable of solving their critical problems, they would not have hesitated to criticize it. However, the people, with their delicate feeling, know that the standing government can do

nothing. The best demonstration of this is the fact that the cabinet has not met for over 3 months in spite of the circumstances, the crises, and the problems, which are getting more complicated. If the cabinet moves, it only moves on the direction of the president; if it does anything, it does this under instructions from the president. The president must intervene to resolve the problems of exporters, importers, and investors. The president must intervene to remove the obstacles in the goods warehouses, Cairo airport, the steel and iron plant, and the department stores in cities and villages.

Since the political system and reality give the president all keys to the solution, we directly address the president to ask him to devote himself to resolving Egypt's main problems and to make the share of the internal work equal to that of the foreign work, if not more. Foreign activity requires from the president continuous travel and keeping away from centers of the problems, while internal activity requires from the president devotion and an effort matching the size of the people's problems.

It is nice for the president to seek a reconciliation between Mauritania and Senegal. However, what is nicer is for the president to seek a national reconciliation between the ruling regime and the Egyptian opposition factions.

It is also nice for the president to seek to resolve the Namibian problem. However, what is nicer is for him to strive to resolve the problem of unemployment, because Egypt's internal success is a condition for its foreign success.

Any foreign moves that are unaccompanied by progress and reforms in internal matters will not be useful. Strong states draw their strength from the strength of their internal structure and the hardness of their people and their rallying around their rulers, provided they choose their rulers freely.

Court Rules Against Fundamentalist Group

NC1609185689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1508 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 16 Sep (MENA)—Counselor 'Umar al-'Atifi, president of the higher state security court, today announced details of the legal opinion on which the verdict in the case against members of the group "Those Delivered From the Fire" was based. He said the opinion is 350 pages long and includes the charges against the defendants, rebuttals, and a response to the doctrine adopted by the defendants.

In a news conference today, the president of the court stated that the defendents had been charged with many crimes, including the attempted assassination of former Interior Ministers Al-Nabawi Isma'il and Hasan Abu-Basha and AL-MUSAWWAR's chief editor Makram Muhammad Ahmad. He added that they had also committed other crimes when resisting arrest in the villages of al-Kharaqaniyah, Santaris, and Imbabah, as well as in other places, and had killed policeman Hamadah Salamah and wounded a number of security men and citizens.

The legal opinion said the defendants derive their principles and ideas from the book "al-Manhaj al-Haraki fi al-Islam" and from the writings of Ibn-Taymiyah and Muhammad Ibn-'Abd-al-Wahab. Their ideas are aimed at shaking the faith of Egyptian society and they believe that Egypt is a place for war and not for peace. Therefore, they sought to establish an Islamic state by force by changing the current regime, instigating resistance to public authorities, assassinating important figures, approving of robbery against the infidel state, forbidding work in the state's agencies, and forbidding prayers in government mosques because they are said to be atheists' mosques.

The opinion stressed that no one should be charged with being an atheist if the truth of the allegations cannot be ascertained because only the heart knows whether a person is faithful or an atheist and only God can see into a person's heart.

The opinion said that no one should be content to follow only one scholar or one writer, especially in matters that can be subject to several intepretations, since no one is immune from mistakes.

The opinion added that the accused in this case had confined themselves to certain books and followed the teachings of one scholar or a few scholars without studying other books and ideas and without a full study of the circumstances under which these books were written. The opinion noted that the defendents studied certain books without understanding their historical context and that it is wrong for them to equate their circumstances with those that existed in the past.

The opinion asserted that Egypt, with its crowded mosques and towering minarets, its ancient al-Azhar and its noble scholars who are unparalled in their religious preaching, is an Islamic country.

In its opinion, the court reviewed the defendants' ideas and the views of al-Azhar officials, Egypt's mufti, and People's Assembly member Shaykh Salah Abu-Isma'il on these ideas.

The opinion urged the defendants to renounce the doctrine they had embraced and urged Shaykh Salah Abu-Isma'il to retract his statement in the court charging everyone with atheism, including the president of the Republic and the members of the court. [passage omitted]

Further on Court Hearing

NC1709190789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1603 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)—An emergency supreme state security court session under Counselor 'Imad al-Din will tomorrow resume hearing the defense panel's

argument in the case of the Egypt's Revolution Organization and will rule on motions made by the defense in earlier sessions. The defense had asked that 19 prominent political figures, former foreign and defense ministers, and some journalists, writers, and Islamic Call officials be called to testify.

The court listened to four defense panel members today. They asked the court to conduct an inquiry and summon some members of the U.S. Embassy in Cairo to question them about the embassy's investigation into Egypt's Revolution.

The defense emphasized that the case is primarily political and not criminal. They pointed out that the indictment charges the defendants with committing acts hostile to the political interests of two foreign states: the United States and Israel. They also argued that it is a political case because it is being heard by an emergency supreme state security court.

The defense insisted on hearing testimony from witnesses they had called in earlier sessions on the grounds that the witnesses had played a role in shaping political life in the seventies and in charting Egypt's foreign policy, which has a bearing on the case.

The defense wants to call former Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, former Foreign Ministers Isma'il Fahmi and Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, former Defense Minister Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu-Ghazalah, writer Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal, Dr Sayyid Tanta, the mufti of the Republic, and others to testify.

Libya

BBC Correspondent Interviews Al-Qadhdhafi

LD1909160789 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1249 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Interview with leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by unidentified BBC correspondent; date, place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Correspondent] Brother leader of the revolution, 20 years of unique experiment in the Arab and Western world have passed. In that time we saw a new style of democracy, the characteristics of which were defined by the "Green Book" and the third universal theory. Now, if we look back over those 20 years, have you achieved what you wanted for the Libyan people and are you satisfied?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Thank you. First, I consider the phase which has passed as merely the beginning of a historical revolution. The revolution which took place on 1 September, 1969 was not merely a patriotic or even a nationalist revolution; it was the beginning of an international revolution which is putting forward theses that will change the world. I mean, for the first time a jamahiri system has been established, after the republican system.

It is like the French Revolution which changed the world from kingdoms to republics and ushered in era of the republics. The Fatah revolution ushered in or laid the foundation stone for the era of the jamahiriyahs, the era of people's authority which is built upon people's congresses and people's committees without governments, parliaments, parties, intermediaries, or legislatures to replace the people. This is a situation in which the people rule themselves. The beginning of the end of the phase in which the people choose who rules has begun. The previous phase was the first one, the one of the kingdoms, in which the people are ruled by a king [words indistinct] and the people do not choose who rules. The second phase is the one in which the people choose who rules. The third and final phase is the one in which the people forego the choice of who rules; theirs is self-rule to establish a jamahiri system from the political angle, and the system of partners, not wage earners, from the economic angle.

I believe I have begun to lay the foundations of this new (?system) [words indistinct] from the Soviet Union to Britian, the United States, [words indistinct]. Today, the major capitalist companies in Britain and the United States are changing to the partners, not employees system. Instead of one individual or a family (?as owners), today millions of workers are partners in a capitalist company. In Britain, this is called popular capitalism. In fact, it is really socialism [word indistinct].

In the Soviet Union, the slogan of partners is being raised strongly in a new law: The house belongs to its occupant. They declared in the Soviet Union recently that the house belongs to its occupant—people's authority. An interest today is shown in people's authority and dropping the party authority. The parties are facing a crisis; parliaments are in their death throes; the peoples are marching on a broad front toward attaining power. This march will not stop in the middle of the road; it inevitably will reach its destination. The ultimate thing is that all the people participate in power. When all the people exercise power, popular congresses and popular committees will emerge automatically as the broad masses' means of exercising power without a government and without someone else acting on their behalf.

Consequently, we cannot evaluate the revolution by its historic slogans. These may become a reality in the course of generations [words indistinct]. These are merely a prelude.

[Correspondent] Do you believe that what [word indistinct] is happening in the Soviet Union is influenced by what you began 20 years ago?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] (?It could) be a direct influence, and maybe that change is automatic. [Words indistinct] the third universal theory. The third universal theory: The change is not high-handed, but in a uniform [words indistinct]. I am confident that the world inevitably will change to this. In the Green Book, I facilitated or paved

the way and now it has become clear. It is like one person—going along a road that is dark. If you light that road for him, it does not mean that you made the road for him. What you have done is just to show him the way that already existed. The change is automatic. The people who are hired to do a job are in revolt. They inevitably will become partners. The entire economic system will collapse if this is not achieved. These people want to be partners [words indistinct]. They want to be partners in the production itself. They will not give up their share in the production in return for a wage. This great international workers revolution is the one that is (?championed) in the Green Book. Anyone who ponders a basic solution to the chronic economic crisis in the current world will apply the Green Book.

[Correspondent] You talked about some of the revolution's achievements. In your own evaluation, what are the most important achievements [words indistinct]? What are the elements that are most (?important) [words indistinct]?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The national (?problem) is that a total revolution has taken place in Libyan society, the Bedouin society, [words indistinct]. There were people who lived off the revenues from the oil. This was the defunct image of Libya. Today, every Libyan has a house. The bourgeois society was changed into [words indistinct]. We have spent the oil revenues on the people. [Words indistinct] this wealth used to be squandered. The revolution came and spent the revenues on the people, on building the great man-made river which has become one of the wonders of the world. (?One has to see it to believe it.) What concerns me from the moral aspect is that an echoing cry for freedom was released from Libya. It caused waves throughout the world, meaning that man should be free politically and economically, and that all (?pressures) should be removed and all fetters curbing the freedom of man should be broken, not in a haphazard way, but in an organized and thought-out manner. Direct popular democracy, [words indistinct]. The Great Green Document for Human Rights has (?replaced) all the worn out declarations of human rights that were been issued scores of years ago. It affirmed that the sacred and natural right of man which should not be forefeited is man's right to his own effort and his own toil, of which today he is being robbed by exploiters everywhere in the world. The second is his right to self-determination. These rights are being ignored. He has the right to (?write), speak, move about, work, and strike. These rights are automatic. He (?should enjoy them), but they are not being realized. [Words indistinct] right means that one is free to decide one's own future, and not that someone else must decide his future for him. This is a natural right. The other natural right is to the fruit of one's toil. One must not give up the fruit of one's effort to someone else. Today, there are millions of workers who have been conceding the fruits of their work to exploiters.

The United States claims to defend human rights. Human rights are trampled on in the United States in the first place, and in the entire world. Exploitation is regarded as the greatest (?violater) of human rights. The domination of one party or class of people over the rest of the people, or a president ruling (?as a dictator), introducing martial law or behaving in the country like a ram leading the sheep [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] There must have been some instances in which you were disappointed and tried to put them right, but could not. Can you give us (?some example)?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Of course, I was hoping or it was expected, but I had hopes, or more than an expectation, that a revolution would take place in the Arab homeland during these 20 years, a violent revolution that would destroy the borders inherited from colonialism, and the worn-out reactionary, isolationist, factional, secessionist regimes, and (?bring about) the unionist, revolutionary, and progressive Muslim generation. Actually, no Muslim, [words indistinct], actually, I am afraid that I will die and this hope may never be fulfilled.

[Words indistinct] it had lost its relationship with the future by not being progressive. The one who is not progressive loses [word indistinct] history. Consequently, he is left behind and dies. Victory is for the forces of liberation and the progressive forces. I was hoping that Libya would give an example of the age of the masses, but the new revolution took place in a culturally underdeveloped country. The Libyan (?people) are not qualified to give a good example of the Jamahiri system. The small population of Libya and its great surface area, which is equivalent to that of Europe, rendered the experiment unreal. The model [words indistinct]. If the jamahiri system were to be established in a country like (?Sweden), or Switzerland, or Britain, or the United States—an advanced country that has a large population—or France, it would have been ideal. The jamahiriyah springs from a system that has a large population. [passage indistinct]

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Words indistinct] first, the number of the inhabitants should be great. If the number is small, it may not need the jamahiri system. The jamahiri system is a popular horizontal authority; it has no government, but a people who represent themselves in villages and towns. A country like China, the [word indistinct] committees rule China. [Words indistinct] it is not possible for a government of 20 people to rule 10. In Beijing they rule 1 billion. It is not possible; these people must rule themselves. The jamahiri system [words indistinct]. The greater the number of the population, the greater is the need for the jamahiri system, and for the congresses and committees everywhere.

[Words indistinct] the other aspect is culture. The people must be educated so they can implement security without police, defense without an army, and run the congresses and committees without a government. People like the Libyan people—who were made underdeveloped by Turkish, Italian, and British colonialism—

were very underdeveloped. They did not (?have much culture in the past). [passage indistinct]

[Correspondent] Brother leader, the Western world sometimes adopted a flagrantly hostile attitude. In your opinion, why did it adopt such an attitude, and did that disturb you? Did that affect your own political stances and understanding?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] If one has a number of slaves and one of the slaves rebels, then [words indistinct] because he is accustomed to be obeyed always; the slaves should obey and serve him. If the Arabs rebel....

[Correspondent, interrupting] [Question indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Same as they [words indistinct] 'Abd al-Nasir. Egypt was continuously subjugated by London. 'Abd al-Nasir said no, and nationalized the Suez Canal. They attacked him with warships and aircraft. They lost their senses and became mad. That was because 'Abd al-Nasir rebelled [words indistinct]. The U.S. should be obeyed, so it thinks. If someone comes and says no to the United States and to hell with the United States, and that it should have no right to use the veto at the UN Security Council, the United States will not accept that. Small and large nations should be equal at the United Nations. World arrogance is rejected. When it hears this, the United States becomes angry. It says: Why should we listen to such a voice; it should be silenced. [Words indistinct] aircraft to silence me, but truth will triumph [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Words indistinct] reactionary in the world and has power and does not recognize the right of others to life and sovereignty. There is racial and religious discrimination. In fact, the West is full of hatred toward Islam and the Arabs and the East. These are facts we cannot deny. [Words indistinct] Islam will destroy you and Muhammad is a charlatan. If the Muslims become strong, they will cross the sea and destroy [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] Some Libyans, brother leader, adopted the same attitude, the 1 September revolution is supposed to be by the people for the people. Why did those Libyans [words indistinct]?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] It was a group of exploiters, as some of them had up to 1000 slaves, 1000 Libyan workers, whom they employed and off whose labor they lived. There were contractors, capitalists, and exploiters. When we implemented the second phase of [words indistinct] by returning the wealth to the people, we wanted the money to be given back to the people (?through the popular trials). Some people were agents recruited by the U.S. intelligence services [words indistinct] the Muslim brothers. It was this rotten group which the U.S. intelligence services chose to ride as a donkey to infiltrate the Arab homeland. [Words indistinct] to the al-Fatah revolution. This is a unionist, progressive, and liberational movement, and this is the best reason for opposing it. The founders of the movement and its (?followers) are not Arabs [words indistinct], they are, in fact, Muslims who feel that they are a minority within the Arab homeland. Therefore, they establish something against pan-Arabism [words indistinct]. (?the Muslim brothers) are Muslims who live in the Arab Homeland, but who are not Arabs or who believe that their (?founder) is not an Arab, in order to defend their (?ethnicity). [Words indistinct] the issue is not whether one is an Arab or a non-Arab. The same applies to those who formed or introduced communism. Those were Arab Jews—meaning Jews who lived in the Arab homeland—Kurds, and Armenians, who all feel that they are a minority in the Arab homeland. They were said to be minorities, with the Arab nation on one side and the Kurds on the other, and pan-Arabism on the one hand and the Armenians (?or the Jews) on the other. They embraced communism and preached it in the Arab homeland in order to achieve internationalism in the world. With that in place, there is no Arab or Armenian; there is a communist citizen [words indistinct]. This is how they were exploited by the U.S. intelligence services.

[Correspondent] The Arab world was no better from that point of view. Some Arab countries were hostile to you, the reasons being, perhaps some concepts I hope to dwell on—first, your concept of Arab Unity. Despite all your faithful attempts, no type of unity was realized. Why?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I do not believe that the efforts made for realizing Arab unity were in vain. I believe that they decided the [word indistinct] of unity. All the unity-seeking attempts we made constituted [word indistinct] the Arab unity. If we now propose an Arab unity with Egypt, for example, or with Tunisia, no one can say that this unity is haphazard or [word indistinct], no, this is a unity that we have been preparing for 20 years, I mean part of the attempts which were made [words indistinct]. The Arab Maghreb now believes in unity. The Gulf believes in unity; the Gulf Cooperation 'Council' was established—there is also the Arab Cooperation Council—all these are transformations toward unity.

Therefore, you do not believe that your heading in the direction of the Arab Maghreb is an alternative to the concept of comprehensive Arab unity?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No, it is a step along the path leading to unity; in all its forms and articles, it is a step along the path leading toward comprehensive Arab unity from the ocean to the Gulf. Naturally, [words indistinct] the Arab League now has been negatively affected by the establishment of these groupings. Therefore, the concept of the reorganizing the Arab countries and rewriting the league's charter has been proposed so that the charter will encompass Arab unity. The summit conferences should be transformed into a summit of chairmen and the league secretariat should be transformed into the secretariat of a federation [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] Chad, as well as us feel that this realization of Ar Africa as an alte

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Maghreb we beli To be precise, consisting of Ar the Arab tribes North Africa ar [words indistinc another: One ha came from the Arabian peninsula to summer; one hand to these areas of the Great Sahara sea, and the other ct]. Chad and Libya complement one they have in thos as rainfall in the winter, the other in embrace these co as forests, the other a desert; one has the European and Aer has nothing. A federation—of the type religion in comm he Soviet Union—can be established to more than one f countries. We have, say, a union between Arab, Islamic A Asian states which have no language or established, par mon. The United States itself now has countries and A race, more than one language, etc.... An future except in arab, or African integrated unity can be these problems v rticularly since these states are Muslim rule—like betwe Arab blood exists there. They have no indistinct]. n an integrated unity. [Words indistinct] were created by colonialism—divide and

[Correspondent] tinct] regarding tinct], but acco nationalism, thi two [words ind comes first, as f

[Al-Qadhdhafi] was changed sev social factor pla tinct]. The Abb present-day Iraq but it was torn between Arab a tian empire or sn but it disintegra

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[Al-Qadhdhafi]

[Correspondent] question, but it been trying to ct gate of the gr stretch out a ha Iraq?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] adjusted. We c invasion of the denies that. An there was an in of the Arab hon

Your recent appeal to Mali, Niger, and others, to join the Maghreb Union made is is due to the loss of hope in the rab unity and a policy heading toward ernative.

No, after having the unity of the Arab lieve in an integrated unity in this region. Mali, Niger, and Chad are countries rabs and non-Arabs [words indistinct] as e Soviet Union—can be established to countries. We have, say, a union between Asian states which have no language or mon. The United States itself now has race, more than one language, etc.... An Arab, or African integrated unity can be rticularly since these states are Muslim Arab blood exists there. They have no n an integrated unity. [Words indistinct] were created by colonialism—divide and een Libya and Chad, for example [words

] You seem to be optimistic [words indis- g the realization of unity [words indis- cording to your understanding of Arab is is not so clear and understandable. The distinct] are deep-rooted in you. Which far as your interests are concerned?

] [Words indistinct] The map of the world veral times [words indistinct]. Finally, the ays a decisive role here in [words indis- bassid state [early Islamic state based in aq] was established on the basis of Islam. n to pieces as a result of the conflict and Persian nationalism. The holy Chris- state was based on the Christian religion. ated as a result of [words indistinct].

t] But Arab nationalism comes first?

] Naturally.

t] Forgive me, brother leader, for this t is being asked by many Arabs. Iraq has contain the Iranian invasion of the eastern reater Arab homeland; what made you and to Muslim Iran against Muslim Arab

] Sorry, but the question should be cannot all agree that there was an Iranian e eastern gate of the Arab world. Iran nd if we ask ourselves, we cannot say that nvasion or attack. If there was an invasion meland, I would have been among the first to stand on the frontline. However, in reality I did not think that there was an invasion of the eastern gate of the Arab homeland. On the contrary, up to this moment Iran stresses and continues to stress that it is Iraq which began the war. Iraq denies this. It is a question of dispute over the border, over Shatt al-'Arab; over the problem of the Kurds, when Iraq began to expell the Kurds into Iranian territory, over the problem of exporting the revolution, ov the problem of Shi'ism and Sunnism. In reality it is not a [words indistinct].

However, as a revolutionary, I cannot fight a revolution. I encourage revolution in Iran, and when the revolution triumphed in Iran they said that they used to read Al-Qadhdhafi's speeches, not hear Khomeyni's speeches, because Khomeyni never used to talk on the radio; that Al-Qadhdhafi used to exhort them to revolt against the shah; that the shah used to be very much against Islam and the Arabs, used to be an ally of zionism, an agent of U.S. imperialism. It was I who urged war upon him. At that time, (?we should have fought Iran), the imperial shahanshah. However, after the revolution, the revolution of the Iranian people [words indistinct] and Iran shed U.S. influence, allied itself with the Arab motherland against Zionism and with Africa against racism in South Africa. How could we fight this revolution? Morally, we could not fight this revolution.

[Correspondent] Do you think some of the reasons for world enmity, be it Arab or foreign, stem from the fact that the revolution is, my brother leader, a Libyan one in its circles, standards, concepts, culture, background, and limits. Are these not the reasons for their stances?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] No, on the contrary. The revolution's theses are pan-Arab, and that is why anyone who is against the revolution has been against it [words indistinct]. Otherwise, how can one explain the U.S. interference in a Libyan revolution at any time? [words indistinct] So what takes place in Libya and inside its territory should not be of interest to the United States? However, (?what is taking place) in today's Libya has vast and great repercussions in the international arena. That is why the United States has interfered in this country, as has Zionism and rection. When we (?call) for Arab unity, all anti-unity forces are against us. That is why, on the pan-Arab level, forces that are anti-unity have stood against the Libyan revolution. However, if the Libyan revolution had been a purely Libyan one, its neighbors would not even have cared.

[Correspondent] Brother leader, concerning the Palestinians, things are no longer clear. Your stance of rejecting a partial solution, resolution 242, and recognition of Israel is known. However, you have a reconciliatory stance toward Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, whose Palestinian direction has become entrenched in a particular direction since the middle of last November. How do you reconcile between the two; I mean, how do you evaluate the new direction of the Palestine National Council [PNC]?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] I do not support Yasir 'Arafat's policy at all, in fact. Nor do I support the resolutions of the PNC, at all. I do not even recognize the legitimacy of the so-called PNC. [Words indistinct] first, I do not believe in representation, because representation is a fallacy. When the Palestinian people are organized into people's congresses and people's committees and meet in a general people's congress; when the deputies, the secretaries of the congresses and committees, meet and decide upon anything; then we can say that the Palestinian people have made a decision. That is, when the Palestinian congresses make a decision and meet at the level of a Palestinian people's general congress—every deputy comes with his congress' decision—then we can say that the Palestinian people have decided this and that. However, the PNC, in fact, is an undemocratic and illegitimate formation; it is a superficial, governmental formation consisting of [words indistinct], independents, [word indistinct] individuals and individual appointments. In fact, these decisions do not represent the Palestinian people at all.

[Correspondent] [Words indistinct] there have been some repercussions. Did President al-Nasir's death, which took place only a year after the movement of the al-Fatah Revolution, hamper your revolutionary plans, too?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] [Word indistinct] as time goes by al-Nasir's value as a great man emerges more and more because following 'Abd al-Nasir's death the nation has begun to dwindle bit by bit. Now it is an object of ridicule, meaning that now when you attend a summit conference and hear an Arab ruler addressing the world or even talking to himself or his own people, you can see stupidity and self-importance [word indistinct]. Also, you can see that Abd al-Nasir was the brain; he was rational and serious. How the world used to respect the Arab nation during 'Abd al-Nasir's era! Today's Arab nation, however, is not respected because of its rulers. That is why 'Abd al-Nasir is a giant, and is getting bigger with time.

[Correspondent] Therefore your revolutionary plans were (?greatly affected) following (?his death)?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] A great weight befell me following 'Abd al- Nasir's death. It was we, following 'Abd al-Nasir's death, it was we who shouldered the banner of pan-Arabism and Arab unity, as well as the fight against Zionism, imperialism, reaction, and racism, in addition to extending a helping hand to Africa, which were all things 'Abd al-Nasir used to shoulder. Therefore, we carried 'Abd al-Nasir's banners and we have borne the consequences.

[Correspondent] Let us look outside, in particular to the United States. It seems that you expect something good from Bush on the basis that he is better informed and [word indistinct] than Reagan. Indeed, you presented him with an olive branch, but he has not yet grasped it. Do you hope that he will do that, while the nature of the U.S. system [word indistinct] is known and stable in spite of the change of faces?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] One can say it is the lesser of two evils. When we compare two evils [laughs], we choose the lesser one. The imperialist United States is in fact the imperialist United States, and we should not deceive ourselves [words indistinct] to this degree. However, the Reagan era was an extraordinary one; it was more than just an imperialist, United States [words indistinct] one. On a personal level, it was a wicked one, composed of a number of personalities with complexes. [Words indistinct] Reagan used to suffer from particular complexes against me personally. He had a personal complex, similar to that of many people like him in the world. He used to be an actor and became a head of state and [words indistinct]. This gave him a complex; he implemented his theatrical style in the world. One day he moves the fleets and the armies, as if he were on the stage and they were toys. However, the cost of this was great: Many people died in this game of his.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Even though he is the president of the United States, the imperialist and colonialist and so on, Bush is not insane. He understands the policies—the policies of the United States—but I don't think he is insane like Reagan. Moreover, he has learned valuable lessons from Reagan's scandals, losses, and crises.

[Correspondent] The Jamahiriyah's recent noticeable opening toward the outside world in a positive manner, with Chad, for instance, [words indistinct] the resumption of diplomatic relations with it. What are your (?assessments of it)? As we on the verge of a new historical turning point, how would you like us to (?remember) the previous period of Chadian-Libyan relations?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] The Libyan-Chadian relations are old. The Libyan fought side by side with the Chadian for tens of years against the French colonialism. Libyan martyrs fell in N'djamena, in [word indistinct], Faya, and [word indistinct]. Martyrs fell in all these places. The Libyan people fought by the side of the Chadian people against French colonialism, even before Libyan independence. A great number of Libyans were born [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] [Words indistinct] the money and the aid being channelled to foreign revolutions in Nicaragua, and here and there, should not rather be invested in an industrial infrastructure which would replace oil when the latter runs out in the distant future?

[Al-Qadhdhafi] Of course we are serious in finding an alternative for oil. We have petrochemical complexes. We have developed the oil industry since the revolution. We do not sell it all as raw material. We have developed gas. Today we [words indistinct] we have filled the desert with colossal agricultural projects. We have drilled water from the desert [words indistinct] a matter which would allow us to benefit from the waters of the rain. Schools

also are everywhere now. There is no child—boy or girl—who still is not at school. Universities are everywhere, and there is not just one university.

[Correspondent] Some people write that the money or assistance that is sent to revolutions abroad, to Nicaragua and so on, should have been spent on an infrastructure and an industrial base that would replace petroleum when the latter runs out in the near future.

[Al-Qadhdhafi] We are serious about finding a replacement for petroleum. We have petrochemical installations; we have refined oil after the revolution and do not just sell it as crude; we have processed gas; we now have gas processing factories, we have petrochemical factories; we have iron and steel factories. The great man-made river is a miracle among miracles in the universe.

However, at the same time, I am sorry that we did not spend as much as we should have on the liberation movements in the world, at the expense of Libyan agriculture and industry. We should defeat colonialism and eliminate it [words indistinct]. We should, first of all, defeat colonialism. Before industry, agriculture, [word indistinct], and everything else, we should have defeated colonialism and put everyone in his place, so that every people could enjoy their wealth. I am very sorry that I did not spend billions on the liberation movements. That is my mistake, and I acknowledge it. We should have spent billions on the liberation movements to defeat colonialism, imperialism, and Zionism everywhere. With Zionism, everything we deal with is destroyed. We should have spent billions to destroy Zionism. Thus, [words indistinct] the Litani River, the Jordan River, the [word indistinct] are all diverted. All the rivers have been diverted. They were taken from the Arabs by virtue of the Israeli occupation. We should have destroyed the Israeli occupation first, before building factories. It is a mistake, and I am sorry that I [words indistinct] factories, farms, houses, and roads. I should have first fought colonialism with the oil money until it was defeated. Then construction would have begun in an atmosphere of peace and stability. [passage omitted]

Al-Qadhdhafi Sends Peace Day Message to UN

LD1909143989 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution addressed a message to the UN General Assembly on the occasion of the World Day for Peace, which coincides with the third Tuesday of September. The message stresses the real meaning of peace, which should not be at the expense of the freedom of others, and for which a serious attitude by the United Nations is needed to eradicate old colonialism and repel invasion aimed at owning new colonies.

The message stresses the necessity to seriously submit the Jewish question to the United Nations before it is too late and before the occurrence of a tragedy. Settling this issue at the expense of the Arabs and the Palestinian people is a very erroneous decision which will lead the world to a tragedy. Having the Jews sit on a volcano is a world conspiracy against them and not taking their side, as it might appear.

The message reviews solutions to a number of issues which the world is facing in the political, economic, and social fields which guarantee the consolidation of peace and the establishment of a just world society based on the principles of cooperation, noninterference in other's affairs, the eradication of all the aspects of tyranny and aggression, putting a halt to the production and storing of the weapons of destruction, removing armies, and setting up people's armies who will not attack each other, and [words indistinct] to hate themselves.

Eternal peace will only be established with disarmament, the elimination of the means to make war, armies, governments, parliaments, parties, and classes, and with the establishment of people's power through people's congresses and committees, and the (?victory) of the era of the jamahiriyahs.

Zanzibar To Receive Development Project Aid

EA1809204289 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli—Libya has agreed to assist Zanzibar in various development projects of communications, education, health, and religion. The agreement was reached in Tripoli today after 2 days of talks between Libyan and Zanzibari officials. The Zanzibar projects which would benefit from Libyan assistance include construction of an 18 km road between Kidimi and Kitope in Zanzibar Island and a 20 km road between Bahanasa and Nyali in the Pemba Island. The Libyan Government will also assist to improve the Zanzibar hospital and finance the construction of mosques in Pemba's four districts. The Zanzibar 4-man delegation led by the chief minister Dr Umar Ali Juma is in Libya for a week-long tour of development projects.

Morocco

Royal Air Maroc Plane Hijacked at Gando Airport

LD1909163189 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] We now go over to Gando Airport in Gran Canaria, in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, where a Moroccan Airlines aircraft has been hijacked, an aircraft which was diverted to this airport while it was on a domestic flight. We now have the latest on this from Sebastian Sarmiento at the Spanish Radio studios in Las Palmas:

[Sarmiento] As the afternoon passes we are learning more details about the hijacking of the Royal Air Maroc aircraft, which was hijacked mid-flight and diverted to

the Gran Canaria international airport. It seems that the aircraft was flying the El Ayoun-Asmara route when it was diverted.

At about 1450 hours Canaries time, a call was received at the control tower at Gran Canaria airport from the captain of the hijacked aircraft urgently asking for permission to land, since a gun was being pointed at him. Shortly afterward the aircraft landed at Gran Canaria Airport, parking near the international arrivals terminal. The aircraft was immediately surrounded by the Spanish police, who scarcely had time to act since from the aircraft emerged two hijackers with machineguns keeping a watch on all movements. At the moment, Madrid, we now have a report from colleague Jose Luis Dominguez, at Gran Canaria Airport:

[Sominguez] We are now near the hijacked aircraft and the latest details we have here at the airport, practicaly on the runway itself, are that the [words indistinct] the Moroccan consul arrived just a few minutes ago. He has gone to the control tower and is trying to negotiate.

Hijacker 'Mentally Unbalanced'

LD2009134689 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Rabat, 20 Sep, [MAP]—Sources close to Royal Air Maroc announced that an ATR 42 Air Maroc aircraft working on the line connecting Casablanca-El Ayoun-Smara was hijacked yesterday, Tuesday, to Gando Airport in Las Palmas carrying six passengers.

The hijacker surrendered a few hours later to the Spanish authorities after releasing the six passngers.

According to the same source, the matter concerns a Moroccan citizen named (Mekran Ould Namou) who was found to be mentally unbalanced and had no specific demands or aims.

The sources pointed out that the passengers of the hijacked aircraft were able to continue their voyage last night toward their original destination, and that an investigation of the matter has already commenced.

Niger's Prime Minister Ends Official Visit

AB1409221489 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 14 Sep 89

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mahamane Oumarou, today ended his official visit to Morocco after visiting Fez yesterday. In a statement to the press prior to his departure from Rabat, the prime minister stated that his visit fully corresponded with his expectations, because it offered him and his friend and brother, Dr Azzedine Laraki, the opportunity to draw up modalities for strengthening cooperation between Niger and Morocco, in line with the directives of His Majesty King Hassan II and General Ali Saibou, the chairman of the Higher Council for National Orientation and head of state.

Sudan

Relations With Central African Republic Restored

EA1909224789 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Staff Brigadier al-Tijani Adam al-Tahir, member of the National Salvation Revolution Command Council and the political supervisor for Darfur Region, has declared that relations with the Central African Republic have been restored. He said he would hold discussions with the Central African consulate in Khartoum in order to solve the problems of the pastoralists who entered Central Africa looking for pasture. [passage omitted]

Paper Cited on End of Ethiopian Aid to SPLA

AB1909190689 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] If one of Sudan's two remaining newspapers is to be believed, the SPLA [Sudan People's Liberation Army] will soon be feeling the heat of the improvement in relations between the governments of Sudan and Ethiopia. The southern rebels have long received both moral and material support from the Addis Ababa government, but, as Alfred Taban reports in this telex from Khartoum, that's going to change.

[Begin studio announcer recording] The newspaper (EL-ENGAZ EL-WATANI) is the second civilian newspaper to be allowed to publish by the new military government. In its edition of today, it said that the Ethiopian Government has decided to stop completely all aid and support to the SPLA as of the 1st of October. It said that assistance and support includes the provision of broadcasting services to the SPLA. Radio SPLA, which is thought to operate out of Ethiopia, is very popular in Sudan and it is listened to by many people, including members of the government and the Armed Forces.

(EL-ENGAZ EL-WATANI's) article was accompanied by a photograph of Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Kahalifah, a member of the ruling military council, meeting the Ethiopian ambassador to Khartoum, (Felike Tabor). Col Khalifah has been leading the new government's delegation to the peace talks with the SPLA. When I asked Ambassador (Tabor) this morning about the article, he said he had no comment to make.

A week ago, the ambassador was allowed to deliver a statement on state-run television in which he thanked Sudan's new head of state, Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, for throwing his weight behind the current peace moves in Ethiopia. He said that the two countries could do a lot to help each other to bring about peace in each other's country.

Reports about the ending of assistance by the Ethiopian Government to the SPLA have been circulating in Khartoum for some time now. These reports say that improved relations between Sudan and Ethiopia have

made the position of the SPLA in Ethiopia untenable. These reports say that the SPLA has already contacted three African countries—Kenya, Uganda, and Chad—to allow it to move its bases there from Ethiopia. They say the SPLA has already enlarged its relief office in Nairobi with the aim of eventually transforming it into a fully fledged SPLA office should it be thrown out of Addis Ababa. [end recording]

Al-Bashir Sends Message to Ethiopian President

EA1909141389 Khartoum SUNA in English 0912 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Sep [SUNA]—Minister of Housing Muhammad al-Hadi Ma'mun will deliver a written message from the chairman of the National Salvation Revolutionary Council, General 'Umar al-Bashir, to the Ethiopian president, Mengistu Haile Mariam, the daily AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH of today reported. The message deals with bilateral relations and the peace process in both countries, the paper added.

The minister left for Ethiopia yesterday, leading a high-level delegation to participate in the conference of African housing ministers which started its session 18th September and will continue until 23rd September, under the supervision of the UN.

Cabinet Endorses OPEC Donation Agreement

EA1509100289 Khartoum SUNA in English 0910 GMT 14 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, 14 September—The Council of Ministers endorsed, in its yesterday's session, a donation agreement between the Government of Sudan and OPEC's fund for international development. The donation, which amounted to 10 million dollars, will be allocated for financing the importing programme which aims to assist Sudan in facing its petroleum products needs.

On the other hand, the council also reviewed a report presented by the minister of transport and communications on the rehabilitation of the Sudan railways project which it is implementing in collaboration with the World Bank. The council also reviewed a memo presented by the minister of finance regarding the transfer of the savings of the Sudanese working in Iraq.

Commissioner To Review Chad Refugee Repatriation

EA1809215889 Khartoum SUNA in English 1019 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum September 18—Some of the problems related to the presence of the Ethiopian refugees in Central and Eastern regions have been solved, commissioner for refugees, Brigadier (ret.) Abd-al Rahman Sirr-al-Khatim said yesterday. He said the number of the Ethiopian refugees in the Eastern Region had reached 731,000 by the end of last June, inside and outside the camps. They numbered [word indistinct] in the Central Region by the same date.

The commissioner visited recently the Central and Eastern regions to inspect issues related to the presence of refugees in these regions. Meanwhile, Brig Sirr-al-Khatim will tomorrow leave for Geneina in western Sudan on a three-day inspection visit to Darfur Region to inspect the conditions of the Chadian refugees in the area. He said he would review with the Chadian refugees their voluntary repatriation to their homeland, indicating that the matter will also be discussed with the Chadian Government and the representative of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. The total number of Chadian refugees in the region amounted to 111,000 he concluded.

Garang's Adviser Voices Pessimism Over Talks

JN1709144289 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 14 Sep 89 p 1

[By Mu'awiyah Yasin]

[Text] London—A senior official in Garang's movement has voiced pessimism over the chances of progress in negotiations between the movement and the Sudanese Government.

In an exclusive statement to AL-MADINAH during his stopover in London yesterday, Wednesday, en route to his place of work in Geneva, Dr Mansur Khalid, former Sudanese foreign minister and member of the movement, said the movement will neither make concessions nor hold negotiations regarding its call for the cancellation of the September laws.

Dr Mansur Khalid, a political adviser to the movement's leader, John Garang, said the movement continues to adhere to the two basic questions it posed to the government delegation during the recent meeting in Addis Ababa. These are: Why has the coup d'etat basically taken place, and what is the current government's plan to make peace after its cancellation of all previous initiatives?

He pointed out that the government delegation, headed by Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, called on the movement to halt its radio transmissions and declare a cease-fire and allow the continuation of relief operations in the south before the national constitutional conference could be held. Dr Mansur Khalid said the movement rejected these demands because they are all procedural and should be preceded by an agreement on general principles. Moreover, he said, the government is talking about the problem of southern Sudan, whereas the movement believes that the problem is part of the problem of Sudan as a whole.

He said the movement's demands include a military merger in which the movement's forces, which he said consist of 40,000 men, are incorporated into the Sudanese Armed Forces.

National Peace Subcommittees Resume Work

EA1809221489 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] The subcommittees of the National Dialogue for Peace Steering Committee resumed their meetings this morning. The information committee held a meeting with the leaders of information groups in the presence of the culture and information minister, Mr Ali Muhammad Shummu.

During the session, panel members discussed a plan to convey the results of the dialogue abroad and extend its horizons. They also discussed a provisional program to implement the plan, studying the program in terms of the nature and capabilities of the information groups represented at the meeting. The meeting was held at the invitation of the minister of culture and information, who stressed the need for coordiation and integration of the efforts of the information committee, the ministry, and of the various information groups. He said: This is the correct venue for studying the plan worked out by the information committee and the programs that will enable its implementation.

The committee for alternative solutions heard a lecture read by Dr al-Ajab Ahmad al-Turayfi, director of the Council of Local Government Studies at the University of Khartoum. Al-Turayfi dwelt on the practicality and appropriateness of federal rule in Sudan, popular participation, and democracy in terms of respect for opinions. The lecture was followed by a discussion of positive and negative aspects and ways of overcoming the latter. The previous [as heard] solutions committee also listened to remarks by Mr Angelo Beda [chairman of the Southern Council in March 1989]. Mr Beda discussed the Juba Conference of 1947, which he described as the first contact between the north and south, adding that it had been held as a result of the administrative conference held in 1946. The (?latter) conference had recommended the development of the consultative council existing at the time and called on the brother southerners to join that council. Mr Beda also mentioned the positive and negative aspects of the Addis Ababa conference. Dr Husayn Abu Salih [foreign minister until August 1988] commented on the speech made by Father (Isaac Wal) regarding the 16 November 1988 initiative.

The committees will resume their hearings tomorrow morning, Tuesday.

Registration of Refugees, Aliens Under Way

EA1809124489 Khartoum SUNA in English 1015 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Khartoum, September 18th—Nearly 42,000 refugees and aliens living in the national capital of Khartoum have been so far registered by the authorities in the context of a project to enlist [words indistinct] Shamseddeen, who supervises the enlisting operation said yesterday that the operation would be concluded Sept. 20. He added that the following period would witness intensive campaigns against those who did not carry the identity cards issued to them by the enlisting project authorities.

Bahrain

Minister Voices Support for Tripartite Committee

JN1809193589 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Manama, 18 Sep (WAKH)—Shaykh Khalid ibn-'Abdallah Al Khalifah, Bahraini minister of housing and acting foreign minister, has underlined Bahrain's support for the efforts of the higher Arab tripartite committee entrusted to handle the Lebanese crisis.

In a statement to WAKH today, the minister expressed optimism that the committee will achieve a positive outcome, pointing out that the committee enjoys the support of all the concerned parties in Lebanon.

He also expressed the hope that these efforts will be the first step toward the restoration of security, stability, and normal life in fraternal Lebanon.

Kuwait

Chadian Foreign Minister Arrives, Makes Statement

LD1909092189 Kuwait KUNA in English 0822 GMT 19 Sep 89

[By Saleh Nazzal]

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 19 (KUNA)—Chadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Acheikh ibn Oumar arrived here Tuesday morning on a few days visit.

Ibn Oumar told KUNA on arrival that he is carrying a message to His Highness the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad from Chadian President Hissein Habre.

Bilateral relations and issues of common concern will be the focus of the talks with Kuwaiti officials, the Chadian visitor said.

Asked about the future of Chad following the signing of a peace agreement with Libya three weeks ago, Ibn Oumar stressed that "we want to jump toward the real battle and that is the battle of development and construction and that is why we are in need for support and cooperation from our friends such as Kuwait."

Commenting on the agreement with Libya, the Chadian foreign minister said that "it is an agreement that puts a framework for a peaceful settlement for the conflict."

He added that the agreement is "an important and a progressive step toward a peaceful solution."

A series of meetings and practical measures will take place soon to implement the provisions of the agreement, he noted while expressing optimism over the end of the problem.

Meanwhile, Ibn Oumar said Shaykh Jabir played an important role in reaching this agreement in his capacity as current chairman of the Organization of Islamic Conference.

He also applauded the role of African countries, members in the special committee set up by the Organization of African Unity for mediating over this issue.

The visitor was received upon arrival this morning by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud al-'Usaymi.

Meets With Counterpart

LD1909205289 Kuwait KUNA in English 1253 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Kuwait, Sep 19 (KUNA)—Visiting Chadian Foreign Minister Acheikh ibn Oumar conferred here Tuesday with Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad on links between the two countries and African issues.

Shaykh Sabah said after the meeting the Chadian official was visiting to relay a message to his highness the amir from Chadian President Hissein Habre.

He added that he and Ibn Oumar discussed links between the two countries and the possibility of the Kuwait Fund for Economic Development financing a number of development projects in Chad.

Shaykh Sabah said Ibn Oumar, who arrived in Kuwait earlier in the day, briefed him on the latest developments in his country and on the agreement that Chad had recently signed with Libya to end a border dispute between them.

Confers With Amir

LD2009104189 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0959 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Kuwait, 20 Sep (KUNA)—The Chadian foreign minister, Acheikh ibn Oumar, conferred before noon today with the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir, and handed him a message from Chadian President Hissein Habre. Nothing is yet known about the contents of the message. The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-Usaymi.

The Chadian minister arrived here yesterday on an official visit to Kuwait.

Defense Minister Receives CSSR Delegation

LD1809130389 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Defense Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir today received the first deputy chief of general staff in the Czechoslovak socialist republic and the delegation accompanying him. The visiting official handed Shaykh

Nawwaf a letter from the CSSR minister of defense. The meeting was attended by Army Chief of General Staff General Mazyad 'Abd al-Rahman al-Sani, and the CSSR ambassador to the State of Kuwait.

Turkey Agrees to Amir's Mediation With Bulgaria

LD1809145489 Kuwait KUNA in English 1255 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Kuwait, Sep 18 (KUNA)—The Turkish Government Monday agreed to proposals by H.H. [His Highness] the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad for ending the Turkish-Bulgarian dispute over the status of the Turkish Muslim minority in Bulgaria, it was officially announced here.

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told reporters he received today a message addressed to H.H. the amir from Turkish President Kenan Evren carrying Turkey's consent on the recent amiri proposals on the dispute.

Shaykh Sabah emphasised that among the proposals, agreed upon by Turkey, was the convening in Kuwait of a high-level meeting for Turkish and Bulgarian officials. He said the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry has already started contacts with the Bulgarian side to determine the level and the date of the meeting.

[It was] learnt that the Turkish message to H.H. the amir was conveyed through diplomatic channels and that a preparatory meeting bringing together Turkish and Bulgarian foreign ministers could be held under the auspices of Kuwait.

The ministerial meeting might be crowned by a summit between President Evren and Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov in the presence of H.H. the amir.

H.H. the amir had visited both Bulgaria and Turkey early this month while en route back home from the recent 9th nonaligned summit within H.H.'s endeavours for reaching a peaceful settlement of the Turkish-Bulgarian dispute.

Last month, the amir dispatched the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic conference Dr Hamid al-Ghabid and Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry's Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin to Ankara where they delivered two messages on the dispute from H.H. the amir to Turkish and Bulgarian leaders.

PDRY

Burkina Faso's Compaore Arrives for Visit

EA1709210389 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Captain Blaise Compaore, chairman of the Popular Front in the Republic of Burkina Faso and head of government, arrived this evening in Aden for a cordial visit to Democratic Yemen. He was received on arrival at the airport by brother Haydar 'Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and a number of officials.

In a friendly talk between the brother chairman of the Supreme People's Council and our country's guest in the VIP lounge at Aden international airport, Brother al-Attas welcomed Democratic Yemen's guest, wishing him a happy stay. For his part our country's guest expressed his pleasure at paying a cordial visit to Democratic Yemen. This evening, brother al-'Attas will hold, at the secretariat of the the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, a reception for Mr Blaise Compaore and his entourage which will be attended by a number of officials. [passage omitted]

Further on Visit

AB1709222089 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Popular Front Chairman Blaise Compaore this afternoon arrived in Aden in South Yemen. From Aden, our special correspondent, Raymond Eduard Ouedraogo gives the details of President Compaore's visit.

[Begin Ouedraogo recording] When two revolutionaries meet, all they discuss is militant solidarity. The head of state has just arrived in Aden, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. He arrived late this afternoon. He was given a warm welcome by his South Yemeni counterpart, Haydar 'Abu Bakr al-'Attas. Aden constitutes the last, yet important, stage of the president's tour, which, as you know, began on 5 September.

This said, it is not common to be offered a 1 billion-CFA-franc gift; but the truth is when Japan wants to give, it gives. According to its assistance policy, Japan does not grant loans to less developed countries like Burkina Faso. It makes a donation to them. The money given to our country by Japan falls under what is called the Kennedy Round. It is aimed at helping less developed countries in the field of food supply. This assistance will be used principally in the National Grains Office, OFNACER. That is not all. Applying to the letter the ancient Chinese proverb that it is better to teach others how to fish rather than to give them fish, the Tokyo Government has seen far ahead and decided to send agriculturists to help in the promotion of agriculture in Burkina Faso. Additionally, according to Plan and Cooperation Minister Pascal Zagre, Japanese enterprises have expressed their readiness to come and establish joint ventures in our country. These are the first tangible results of the private visit that the comrade chairman of the Popular Front has just paid to Japan. We will certainly know more about it when the balance sheet of this long tour is drawn. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Communique on Iraqi Ba'th Party Visit

LD1409215489 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Sep 89

[Text] A joint communique has been issued at the end of the visit to our country by the delegation of the Iraqis Socialist Arab Ba'th Party [SABP], the text of which is as follows:

A delegation of the Foreign Relations Office of the regional command of the Iraqi SABP visited our country from 11 to 13 September and held meetings with officials on the development of relations between the peoples and parties of the Democratic Yemen and Iraq.

The communique stated that during discussions on the latest developments and issues affecting the Arab nation, headed by the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people, the Yemeni and Iraqi sides stressed the importance of backing the uprising and helping it to continue as an effective militant action until a comprehensive and just solution to the Palestinian issue was achieved which enabled the Palestinian people, led by the PLO, to determine their own destiny and establish an independent state on their national soil.

On the dangerous and critical situation in Lebanon, the two sides stressed the need for joint action by the Arab countries to assist the Lebanese people in achieving their independence and preserving their unity and in putting an end to the present situation. They declared their support for the resolutions of the Casablanca summit on the Lebanese issue and for the efforts to implement them.

They welcomed the continued efforts of the tripartite committee to achieve a just and urgent reconciliation of all the concerned parties to bring to an end the suffering of the Lebanese people and to enable them to peacefully determine their own destiny and reform their political, economic, and social conditions.

The two sides also expressed their eagerness for security and stability in the Gulf region, stressing the importance of implementing UN Security Council Resolution number 598, in order to achieve a comprehensive and just agreement to restore permanent peace and stability to the region and its peoples.

At the end of its visit, the Iraqi delegation expressed its gratification at the results of its meetings with officials in the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP]. It extended an official invitation from the SABP to the YSP. The invitation was accepted. A date for the visit will be fixed later.

Qatar

Tripartite Committee Statement on Lebanon Welcomed

JN1809114489 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1120 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Doha, 18 Sep (WAKH)—The State of Qatar has welcomed the higher Arab tripartite committee's decision to resume its peace efforts to end the Lebanese crisis. Qatar called on all concerned parties to honestly respond to these good initiatives. In a statement to QNA, an official source at the Qatari Foreign Ministry said that the State of Qatar supports the statement issued by the tripartite committee on Saturday [16 September] on its working program to find a final solution to the bloody Lebanese tragedy.

The Qatari source added that the Government of Qatar believes that this statement is a very positive step toward ending 14 years of fighting, battles, destruction, and killing. The Government of Qatar also, the source said, urges all concerned parties to cooperate with the tripartite committee to reach a settlement satisfactory to all sides and to restore security, peace, and stability to sisterly Lebanon.

Saudi Arabia

Somali Minister Delivers Message to King Fahd

LD1909084089 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Comrade Dr Abdiqasim Salad Hussein, the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] minister of commerce, who is visiting the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with a delegation, last night delivered to King Fahd ibn 'abd al-'Aziz Al-Sa'ud a message from Comrade Mohamed Siad Barre, the SDR president. During the meeting, which was dominated by a very positive atmosphere, Dr Abdiqasim Salad Hussein briefed the king on the general aspects affecting the political, economic, social, and commercial situations in the SDR. The king asked the minister to convey his greetings to Comrade Siad, the SDR president, whom he wished good health and long life. He wished development and prosperity for the Somali people. [passage omitted]

OIC Head Returns From Talks With Kuwait Amir

LD2009060189 Kuwait KUNA in English 2027 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Riyadh, Sep 19 (KUNA)—Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC] Dr Hamid al-Ghabid returned to Jeddah Tuesday after a brief visit to Kuwait where he held talks with H.H. [His Highness] the amir and H.H. the crown prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah.

Dr al-Ghabid was quoted by the SAUDI PRESS AGENCY as saying that he had conveyed a comprehensive report to H.H. the amir, the current chairman of the OIC, of his recent mission in Mauritania and Senegal concerning efforts to resolve ethnic dispute between the two Moslem countries. He said he also reviewed with H.H. the amir the present efforts by the OIC to solve the differences between Turkey and Bulgaria over the status of the Turkish Moslem minority in Bulgaria.

United Arab Emirates

Central Bank Report Cited on 1988 State Revenues

JN1509164489 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sep 15 (GNA)—UAE general revenues increased by eight percent to 20.6 billion dirhams in 1988 as a result of an improvement in the oil market, the Central Bank said in a report released today.

The figure included 16.2 billion dirhams worth of oil exports or about 72 percent of the overall revenues, it said.

"The increase is due to stability in oil production and prices as well as in demand," the report said.

It said government spending in the combined budget, which includes the federal and local budgets, fell 2.7 percent to 25.7 billion dirhams.

This, coupled with an increase in contributions by the Emirates cut the consolidated deficit by 16.6 percent in 1988, it added.

Yemen Arab Republic

Prime Minister, Delegation Return From Baghdad

JN1809061989 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, and his delegation returned to Sanaa at 2400 yesterday after participating in the second meeting of the Arab Cooperation Council ministerial council which met in Baghdad on 16 and 17 September. [passage omitted]

Ethiopian Official Concludes Visit, Departs

JN1709153989 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Kasa Kebede, member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee, today left Sanaa following a 1-week visit to our country during which he conveyed a message to the brother leader, President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, from Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. [passage omitted]

Central Auditing Department Director Sworn In

JN1609155389 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Brother Ahmad Muhammad al-Iryani was sworn in today as director of the Central Auditing Department in the presence of Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, Armed Forces commander in chief, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. Brother Dr Hasan Muhammad Makki, deputy prime minister and Standing Committee member, was also present during the ceremony.

Daily Reviews 'Obstacles' to Committee's Efforts

JN1909102889 Baghdad INA in English 0920 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 19, INA—AL-JUMHURIYAH daily of Baghdad said the big optimism pinned by circles on the resumption of the tripartite committee's efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis [words indistinct] on sound bases that makes it logical.

The daily said that we referred to this despite our full confidence in the committee and our support to its efforts.

The daily said that the obstacles that blocked the committee's efforts were still present and that there is no evidence that these obstacles were removed.

It stressed that the committee would soon face the same obstacles if it insists on committing to the implementation of the Casablanca summit resolution on Lebanon in text and spirit, especially on what concerns the independence and national sovereignty of Lebanon, and imposing control of the Lebanese state on the entire Lebanese soil, and also on what requires the withdrawal of the Syrian and Iranian troops from Lebanon in accordance with a timetable.

The daily said that the Arab tripartite committee defined the responsibility for its deadlocked efforts and that the Syrian regime has not changed.

It added that the Syrian welcome of the committee's resumption of its efforts was not an evidence on the change of its stances and concepts which were rejected by the committee and were the reasons for stalling its efforts.

The paper ridiculed the Syrian regime's announcement of commitment to the Casablanca resolution and the statement of its foreign minister that Syrian troops would not remain in Lebanon forever.

The paper warned against linking the withdrawal of Syrian troops with a withdrawal of Zionist troops from south Lebanon, which would mean giving a justification to the Zionist entity to maintain a presence of its troops there.

AL-JUMHURIYAH mentioned that the Syrian regime has a long history of playing with words and disavowing pledges and obligations for it is a regime that has no credibility. There is no way of granting it confidence as its troops resumed shelling of Lebanese populated areas and ports despite the fact that the three-man committee called for an immediate ceasefire.

The daily further said there is no way of optimism since there are indications of a new chapter of Syrian-Iranian manouevers aiming at gaining time and betting on the disruption of the Lebanese legitimate government and also creating an atmosphere for realising their joint objectives and imposing their solution at the expense of the pan-Arab security.

UN's Goulding Departs, Ends 'Successful' Visit

JN1809135089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA)—Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for special political affairs and peacekeeping, and his accompanying delegation today left Baghdad following a 4-day visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Goulding said his visit to Iraq was successful. He said his talks and meetings with a number of Iraqi officials were positive and fruitful.

He expressed his gratitude to Iraq for cooperating with the UN international observers team charged with supervising the cease-fire with Iran.

Yugoslav General Slavko Jovic, head of the international observers team entrusted with supervising the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran, left on the same plane.

Comoran Delegation Concludes Baghdad Visit

Economic Committee Formed

JN1809135789 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA)—Iraq and the Comoros today decided to set up a joint economic and trade committee to coordinate bilateral activities within the framework of the equal deal system.

The formation of this committee comes within the context of bilateral talks in which the Iraqi side was headed by Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih while the Comoran side was headed by Ahmed Abdou [name as received], special adviser to the president of the Republic.

Foreign Minister Received

JN1809171789 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Sa'id Kafe, minister of foreign affairs, cooperation, and foreign commerce in the Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros.

During the meeting, they discussed relations between the two friendly countries and means to develop them. They also discussed the situation in the region and issues of mutual concern.

Sa'id Kafe accompanies the Comoran president, who began an official visit to Iraq 2 days ago.

Trade Memo Signed

JN1809194989 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Iraq and the Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros today signed a memo of understanding for trade, economic, and technical cooperation.

The memo was signed for the Iraqi side by Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih and for the Comoran side by Sa'id Kafe, minister of foreign affairs, cooperation, and foreign commerce.

The memo refers to the two countries' agreement on the need to develop trade exchange and strengthen their economic and technical cooperation.

The two sides agreed that a visit by a Comoran technical team to Iraq would be made at a later time to discuss ways of regulating trade cooperation and exchange, as well as strengthening trade by setting up a joint ministerial committee and adopting the equal deal and barter systems as part of the means to improve and diversify trade exchange.

The memo also calls for preparing a list of commodities to be included in the barter deal. Such a list would determine the quantity, price, and the means of delivery of specific commodities. In addition, the memo calls for a review of matters related to developing technical cooperation in the fields of training and scholarships in Iraqi universities.

Comoran President Leaves Baghdad

JN1909130789 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA)—Comoran President Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane left Baghdad today following an official 4-day visit to Iraq. [passage omitted]

Finance Minister, Delegation Attend IMF Meeting

JN1909141389 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA)—Finance Minister Hikmat 'Umar left Baghdad for the United States today at the head of an Iraqi delegation that will participate in the meetings of the board of governors of the IMF and the World Bank. The meetings are due to be held in Washington on 26 September.

In a statement to INA, the minister said that the agenda of the meetings includes a number of important topics, such as the world economic situation, the developing countries' debts, the increase of the member states' contributions to the IMF, ways to cope with the member states' arrears, and states' special drawing rights from the IMF.

The minister also referred to the importance of the annual meeting of the IMF, which issues resolutions affecting the world economy. The minister said the IMF has become important because of the emergence of regional economic groupings, conflicting interests between these regional groupings, and the conflicting economic interests of the major industrial countries on one hand, and developing countries on the other.

Finance ministers, governors of central banks, and chiefs of the big international banks will participate in the IMF meetings.

Trade Minister Leads Delegation to Belgrade

JN1909145589 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1415 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA)—Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih left Baghdad for Belgrade today leading a delegation to attend the Zagreb international fair, which opened there yesterday. The fair will last 1 week. [passage omitted]

Parliamentary Talks With British Begin 19 Sep

JN1909161189 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1425 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA)—Iraqi-British parliamentary talks began at the National Assembly headquarters today.

The Iraqi side to the talks was led by the head of the National Assembly Arab and International Relations Committee, while the British side was headed by Tony Marlow, a member of the British Parliament.

The two sides reviewed the Arab and international situation and means to promote bilateral parliamentary relations in the interest of the two peoples.

The British delegation paid tribute to Iraq's peaceful policies and its interest in the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the region. The delegation affirmed that the current reconstruction operations reflect Iraq's genuine desires in this regard.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by several Arab and International Relations Committee members and members of the National Assembly's Iraqi-British parliamentary friendship society. On the British side, the talks were attended by parliamentarians representing the British Parliament's society and league for Arab parliamentary relations.

Rabin Reports to Shamir on Talks With Mubarak

TA1909124489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Ministers Levi, Sharon, and Moda'i will meet tomorrow. The Inner Cabinet session that was scheduled for tomorrow to discuss the Egyptian 10-point plan will probably not take place.

Defense Minister Rabin this morning reported to Prime Minister Shamir on his talks with President Mubarak. The meeting was held behind closed doors, and upon its conclusion they both refused to reveal any details.

Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that their differences regarding the Egyptian plan apparently were not resolved during today's meeting, but several sources have claimed that the tension between the two leaders has slightly ebbed. A conclusive decision will probably only be reached in several weeks time, following the meetings between Ministers Peres and Arens and Egyptian President Mubarak.

Shamir Sees 'No Change'

TA1909162289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The prime minister says that from the defense minister's briefing about his meeting with Mubarak, it seems there has been no change in Egypt's proposals. The prime minister pointed out that Mubarak and Rabin talked mainly about finding ways to promote the peace process, but it is clear that an agreement or operational conclusions should not be expected for the time being. Mr Shamir said that Israel would examine any proposal submitted to it by any party. We hope to be able to make decisions within a few weeks, he noted.

Science Minister Urges Talks With 'Arafat

AU1909165789 Paris AFP in English 1640 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Paris, Sept 19 (AFP)—An Israeli minister called here Tuesday for direct talks with PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat because elections in the occupied territories could produce a more hardline team of Palestinian negotiators.

"We should talk directly to 'Arafat. Whether he can deliver or he cannot deliver, we will see when we talk to him," 'Ezer Weizman, Minister of Science and Development, said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"Now I can go to (Egypt's President Husni) Mubarak and tell him, 'Look, influence him, persuade him,'" said Mr. Weizman, who arrived here Monday on an official three-day visit.

Israel's plan for Palestinian polls in the West Bank and Gaza Strip could weaken the Palestine Liberation Organisation leader's position because hardliners would also be elected to negotiate with Israel, he said.

The elections are designed to find a Palestinian team for talks on a permanent settlement. But the PLO is officially branded as a terrorist organisation in Israel.

Mr. Weizman said he hoped that Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's talks Monday with President Mubarak would signal the "beginning of a dialogue" on Palestinian representation for organizing the elections.

"I think we are obliged to participate more definitely, more aggressively in solving the Palestinian problem," the Labour Party minister said.

His comments came as a crisis loomed in the Israeli coalition government over Egypt's proposals for the elections, including a call for Israel to accept the principle of exchanging Arab land for peace.

While Labour ministers have said the proposals could serve as a basis for talks with the Palestinians, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud bloc, warned it represented a danger to Israeli security.

Officials Respond to Mubarak's 10-Point Plan

Egyptian Initiative Rejected

TA1909201089 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening rejected the Egyptian initiative while speaking to the Israeli Bar Association meeting in Jerusalem to mark the opening of the legal year.

[Begin Shamir videorecording] As for the elections, it should be made clear and emphasized that they are part of a plan aimed at ensuring peace and coexistence between Israel and the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. This means that there is no room or justification to the Arab demand to include outside residents, not just because this demand is a cover for representation by the PLO, but mainly because our initiative is not at all relevant to the foreign residents and it is inconceivable that Israel should agree to their so-called right of return.

By the same token, it is inconceivable to include Jerusalem and its Arab inhabitants in the elections plan. Jerusalem was not included and will not be included in the initiative, because united Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and any deviation involving it would affect the status of our capital.

The attitude toward the formula of land for peace is unacceptable to us, not just because this affects the question of the permanent solution but, what is more important, because it is clear to all today that the practical significance of the formula of land for peace is

the esqablishment of an Arab Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. We will never agree to that! [end videorecording]

[Reporting on the same speech, Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 19 September adds: "The prime minister said that reactions to the peace initiative from various Arab elements received recently contain some points which deserve special treatment on our part because of the dangers they entail. Some of them pertain to issues regarding the elections in the territories which should be discussed when we find partners to our initiative, and others pertain to issues regarding the permanent solution." Shamir also added that "any attempt to deal with the permanent status of the territories at the present stage might, from the outset, undermine the chances of implementing the initiative."]

Arens: Plan No 'Alternative'

TA1809202189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Arens says that 3 days ago his Egyptian counterpart called him. On behalf of President Mubarak, he reported that the 10-point plan is not an alternative to Israel's peace initiative. Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid explained that Mubarak merely sought clarifications for the peace initiative.

Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports that Minister Arens was talking to reporters at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his return from Budapest.

Replying to a question, Arens said that he does not rule out the possibility that a coalition crisis would evolve if the Labor Party should diverge from the Cabinet's policy and the peace initiative.

Decision on Plan Pending

TA1909204289 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated today that if the Likud does not support the peace process, a divorce—as he put it—would ensue and the government would fall. Mr Peres made these remarks in a meeting with Jewish leaders in Los Angeles. Our correspondent in Washington reports that Minister Peres nevertheless stressed that he did not want to focus the argument on the disbandment of the government as long as all the moves to jointly promote the peace process have not been exhausted.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said today that what should be discussed is the issue itself rather than the government. According to him, there is no sense in discussing the political problems as long as Ministers Arens and Peres are overseas. Mr Rabin was interviewed at noon today by our correspondent Moti 'Eden, at the end of a tour in southern Lebanon.

[Begin videorecording] ['Eden] Based on your visit to Egypt, do you see any grounds for a dispute within the government at present?

[Rabin] I see grounds to examine whether a possibility has been created to promote the peace process in light of the following: what has been raised by the United States and Egypt before and during my visit; the talks to be held by Peres and Arens in the United States with the Americans and the Egyptian president; and, in view of the Egyptian idea about a meeting between two delegations, an Israeli and a Palestinian one, to hold a dialogue—not negotiations—to enable the beginning of the implementation of the Israeli Government's peace initiative to hold elections in the territories based on the basic outline of the Israeli peace initiative. At this stage, we should discuss the issues rather than the government. Therefore, we agreed to put off a discussion until after Peres and Arens return from overseas. I assume that at that point we will have clearer information and we will be able to make decisions on the issues proper.

['Eden] The Alignment has been mentioning the possibility of setting up a narrow-based government, and the Likud is contemplating the possibility of holding early elections.

[Rabin] I do not know who has been talking about the establishment of a narrow-based government. I know that all the Alignment ministers concur that at this stage we should deal with the possibility of promoting the Israeli Government's peace initiative in view of the Egyptian readiness to summon or help summon a dialogue between two delegations, an Israeli and a Palestinian one. Whether the conditions are ripe for it or not, we will make a decision only after Peres and Arens return from the United States. [end videorecording]

Beilin Warns Against Rejection

TA2009102889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Deputy Finance Minister Yosi Beilin has said that if Israel rejects the Mubarak initiative, the Labor Party will bolt the government. He said there was no longer any dispute over that in the Labor Party. Our correspondent Shula Schmerling reports that Mr Beilin made the remarks at the opening ceremony of the annual conference of insurance agents in Israel.

Beilin also said that Israel has been conducting indirect negotiations with the PLO since mid-May following the government's approval of the peace initiative. He proposes not to run away from the truth and to confer in Cairo with a Palestinian delegation. Whoever speaks about non-PLO Palestinians lies to himself and to the public, he said. Mr Beilin said there is a growing feeling that there is someone to talk to and what to talk about, and it would be a loss for generations if we once again miss an opportunity for a settlement.

Gov[illegible]vernment's Fate Reviewed

TA1909144789 [illegible]
19 Sep 89 p 13 *Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew*

[Commentary by Yo'el Marcus: "Reports of Its Death are Premature"]

[Text] Instead o[illegible] of us driving a wedge between the PLO and the inhabita[illegible]ants of the territories (as the government had hoped) they[illegible] have driven a wedge between us. We are cracking up int[illegible] to pieces. Still, although everybody is talking about th[illegible]e terrible crisis that has befallen us, and that "this time[illegible] it is serious" and "we will go all the way"—it is poss[illegible]sible that reports about the demise of the unity governme[illegible]ent have been greatly exaggerated.

This assumptio[illegible]n is based on three good premises:

A. Yitzhaq Sh[illegible]hamir does not have any interest in breaking up the [illegible] present government for the same reasons which led him t[illegible]o set it up. It is preferable for him to head a broad-based g[illegible]government in partnership with those who could otherwise[illegible] be his biggest opposition, rather than head a narrow-b[illegible]based government in which he would be a prisoner of Sha[illegible]aron, Levi, and other extremists. Although everybody predi[illegible]dicts that this time he "will not hesitate to go all the way[illegible]," Shamir does not wish to go down in history as some[illegible]eone who broke with the United States. He is determined t[illegible]o do all he can to prevent the dissolution of the governm[illegible]ent over the peace process.

B. Yitzhaq Rab[illegible]bin is also not interested in the breakup of the current gov[illegible]vernment in which he has a pivotal role. Although the [illegible] media is full of information about the upheaval he ha[illegible]as undergone and his spokesmen forecast that he will br[illegible]ring about "an atomic explosion" if his stand is not a[illegible]adopted—I am certain that he will take many steps bef[illegible]fore opting for a final blow to disband the government. Th[illegible]his is not only because Shim'on Peres still has not cleare[illegible]d a path for him to move into the party leadership, but [illegible] because Rabin continues to believe that a settlement on [illegible] a sensitive issue such as the West Bank cannot be achi[illegible]ieved without a broad-based national consensus; that is, [illegible] without the Likud. It is therefore reasonable to assum[illegible]ne that he will invest further efforts in finding a comm[illegible]mon language with Shamir rather than seek a divorce from [illegible]n him.

C. Under the [illegible] present circumstances, the Likud is the most importa[illegible]int component in the government, and without it no [illegible] political process can be undertaken. The dissolution of [illegible] the coalition might bring about either a narrow-based g[illegible] government headed by Shamir, in which the extremists [illegible] would govern, or early elections. Early elections do no[illegible]ot necessarily assure an Alignment victory. Such a victory [illegible] would also depend on whether the peace process gains [illegible] momentum and creates a public feeling that, without g[illegible]giving the Alignment a mandate to rule, the country is in [illegible] ruins. In any case, instead of a political process, a gov[illegible]ernment crisis will bring about a stalemate which might c[illegible]continue until mid-1990. The Arabs and the Americans the[illegible]refore have a bigger interest in reaching an understanding with the Likud than in pushing for a confrontation and government crisis, which is without question a recipe for deadlock and a serious blow to any chance for peace.

Based on these three assumptions, Mubarak's activity will not necessarily bring about a dissolution of the unity government, certainly not at present, since nothing has happened to justify a deep political crisis. 'Arafat has not yet agreed to anything, and the Palestinian delegation has not been established. If the ball starts rolling and includes the elections issue—which has been the problematic point to both sides from the outset— it could go on for years and nothing might come of it in the long run. At this stage, Mubarak in his own way is pushing the Palestinians in the direction of the Israeli Government's peace initiative, and indirectly at least, Shamir should have had his head in the clouds with pure joy over the fact that there are initial signs of a response to the initiative—an initiative that he went out of his way to praise in Israel and abroad.

Cynics claim that Shamir did not intend his initiative to be accepted, and those who know how much he does not like a commotion would not dispel that version out of hand. But he is certainly not so naive as to believe that if there are interlocutors for his initiative they would come without counterproposals. Therefore, in my view, it is not Mubarak's 10 points that are of concern to him, but the composition of the Palestinian delegation. What makes Shamir and the Likud mad is the developing character of the Palestinian delegation and the tendency to assure 'Arafat's total control over it.

'Arafat's interest is clear: If a Palestinian leadership is elected in free elections and it becomes the interlocutor in negotiations with Israel, it would be the end of the PLO leadership in the diaspora. On the other hand, however, if there is a delegation under 'Arafat's control, the Likud will find itself negotiating with the PLO. To Shamir, it is one thing when it is said "the credentials of those elected would not be checked under a microscope" and another to negotiate with a delegation appointed by the PLO, which includes inhabitants of the territories identified with the PLO, as well as Arabs deported for acting in the name of the PLO. One might not agree with Shamir, but it is difficult to dispute the fact that he also has internal problems.

The issue of the composition of the delegation will determine what happens here by the end of the year. Whoever aspires to talk with the current government must understand the limits of its freedom of action and compose a delegation whose members will not go flaunting their associations. It is possible that Rabin's remarks to Mubarak on the issue of the delegation's composition were made in that spirit. If the Egyptians and Palestinians do not want to bang their heads against the wall in vain and wish to find a way out of the imbroglio, the composition of the delegation is not a problem for which a solution cannot be found, as long as a dialogue is begun.

A government crisis is not inevitable at this stage and it is doubtful whether it would advance the peace. In the complex political situation among the Palestinians and inside Israel, peace will not arrive with a dramatic bang, but will have to be spoon fed with the same difficulties with which castor oil is swallowed.

Milhim Sees 'No Breakthrough'

TA1909121089 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 19 Sep 89 p 21

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim "from his home in Amman" by Oren Kohen; date not given]

[Text] [Kohen] When you were deported, did you expect that one day you would be a member of the Palestinian delegation?

[Milhim] I have not heard of this appointment. No one in the PLO leadership has told me that I am a member of a PLO delegation, but if the leadership does say such a thing, I will consider it.

[Kohen] Rabin said he is willing to meet with you.

[Milhim] I will agree to meet with Rabin when I feel Israel is ready to talk about peace, and only after the PLO leadership formally appoints me as a representative. If Mr Rabin or the Israeli Government are willing to meet with a delegation appointed by the PLO, I will be happy to be part of that delegation. I hope it will be an opening for peace. I hope that the recent developments will lead to a breakthrough. It will be good for all of us. There has been enough bloodshed, enough killing.

[Kohen] Are not the recent developments a breakthrough?

[Milhim] I know that 'Arafat is now in Egypt and that the leadership is holding talks. I hope we will do everything to make progress toward a solution. I do not think this has been a breakthrough. I am not against President Mubarak's 10 points, but they are no more than one step on the road to peace. It is a part of a process, rather than a peace plan.

[Kohen] What will the road to peace look like?

[Milhim] Many subjects will have to be discussed. We will have to agree on the form of the elections. After that we will discuss the international conference where all the participating parties will have equal rights, and where the need of every nation in the region to live in security, peace, and independence will be recognized.

[Kohen] The Israeli Government, too, talks of elections.

[Milhim] The elections can be a step or an interim stage. They can be a stage in a comprehensive plan, but they do not constitute an independent entity, as your government wishes to present them. The elections should be democratic and free, without any threats leveled at the participants. In its essence, occupation is diametrically opposed to the liberty and freedom of elections. Therefore, if democratic elections are to be held, they must not be staged under occupation or any form of oppression whatsoever.

[Kohen] What, then, is your opinion of the Israeli initiative?

[Milhim] There is no such thing as the Israeli initiative. There are thoughts about terminating the intifadah [uprising]. Mr Shamir's proposal should have been raised 10 years ago, when I was deported. Even then, we demanded elections, but your side preferred not to hold them. At present, the elections are not designed to bring peace, either, but rather to bring an end to the intifadah. Political elections, if held today, would have a different dimension. Each side would have to receive its guarantees.

[Kohen] What are your leadership's intentions?

[Milhim] The Palestinian initiative is there. There is also 'Arafat's plan for peace, which enjoys the support of 95 percent of the entire population where I come from. At this point, everything depends on whether your government will be willing to stop everyone's suffering and sit down and talk about peace.

[Kohen] Would you have believed that despite being deported, an Israeli defense minister would be ready to talk to you?

[Milhim] I would have preferred not to have been deported in the first place. Rabin knows it, too. Now I can no longer go back home to Halhul, but if I do meet Rabin, it will be only as a member of a PLO delegation and on behalf of the PLO.

[Kohen] Those who did not want you as the mayor of Halhul are now getting you as a Palestinian representative. Is this not a victory?

[Milhim] It is not a matter of either a personal victory or a personal defeat. What we need to achieve now is a victory over the enemies of peace, over those who want more bloodshed, over the people with wicked intentions. We want a victory over the people who have malicious intentions, a victory for our children's future. We can certainly talk about peace.

[Kohen] The permission to meet overtly with 'Arafat, which was granted to Palestinian leaders from the territories, such as Ilyas Frayj, is a novelty.

[Milhim] As a rule, I do not believe restrictions should be imposed on Palestinians with regard to meetings with their compatriots, including the PLO leadership, in any of the countries in the region. Frayj and other leaders are constantly meeting with the PLO. Moreover, such meetings have been taking place for the past 15 or 20 years. The Israelis, including the Shin Bet, were and are aware of them, but they deceive themselves. They have always said: Do not tell us about it. Now is the time to tell the truth fearlessly, as did Frayj.

[Kohen] Would you be ready to come to Jerusalem?

[Milhim] If the PLO Executive Committee and its leadership tell me to go, I will go anywhere to serve my people's goals. I will have no choice but to comply with such a request.

[Kohen] Are there any direct or indirect negotiations between Israel and the PLO?

[Milhim] The current contacts are held on two levels. We have no problem with the level of talks with Egypt, which are not called negotiations. We talk with the Egyptians, consult, and coordinate positions with them. As a rule, we have no difficulty in talking with Arabs, including the Egyptians—especially now that Egypt has returned to the bosom of the Arab world. We definitely coordinate positions with them. On the second level—between Israel and the PLO—there are negotiations which have been going on for the past 2 years or perhaps even longer. As far back as 1981, when Israel made peace with the PLO in Lebanon, messages were exchanged between the PLO and the Israeli Government. Now, once again, messages are passed by mediators from Rabin to us and back again. In the recent period, I personally received an indirect message from Arens, your foreign minister, who told me in fact that Israel would never agree to talk with the PLO. Although it was a negative message, it was certainly meant for me; I replied in the same manner, telling him that it is impossible to make peace without the PLO.

Envoy Discusses Plan's Purpose

JN1709172889 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 16 Sep 89 p 5

[Interview with Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni by AL-AHRAM correspondent in Jerusalem Amirah Hasan; date not given]

[Text] [Hasan] How were the Egyptian 10 points first conceived?

[Basyuni] The concept was to reactivate the peace march, because Egypt, by virtue of its position, has a moral and pan-Arab commitment toward the peace march. We consider these points as a basis for action to begin holding elections. We found that there were reservations and questions on the Israeli peace initiative. So, we proposed these points to complete the picture and to affirm that elections are not an objective in themselves, but a means to achieve an objective, which is land for peace, and that elections should be followed by other stages and the termination of occupation. This means that the Egyptian 10 points are questions posed by the Egyptian Government to learn the details of the Israeli initiative.

[Hasan] Have these points been conveyed to the Israeli Government?

[Basyuni] They have not been conveyed officially to Israel, but they were conveyed to a U.S. congressman who was in Cairo and who then arrived in Israel and conveyed them to Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Arens.

[Hasan] Has the PLO agreed on all the 10 points?

[Basyuni] Egypt will not embark on any action that is rejected by the PLO. This is because the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We have taken into consideration all the PLO's concerns in these 10 points, such as the freezing of settlements, land for peace, and others. The PLO has the right and the last say to accept or reject anything that does not suit its objectives.

[Hasan] What about the Israeli position concerning these 10 points?

[Basyuni] Regarding Israel, the Labor Party adopted these 10 points at the party's recent congress, approved the principle of land for peace, and agreed that elections should be democratic and take place under international auspices. All points were almost covered by the Labor Party. Shim'on Peres announced the need to open a dialogue on the basis of the proposed 10 points.

[Hasan] What about the Likud?

[Basyuni] The situation is different. They say that they first want an Arab partner that agrees on the proposed Israeli initiative, and that they will then reply to the 10 points and their opinion about them. As for the Israeli Government as a whole, the issue was not presented to it and no decision was made in this regard.

[Hasan] What if the Israeli Government rejects these points?

[Basyuni] Why should we be pessimistic, and why should we not be optimistic? I do not want to predict events. I want to wait to hear the Israeli Government's reply to this issue. Here, the United States can play a constructive role in this regard, especially since the 10 points are not different from the U.S. viewpoint regarding the method of a solution in all of its aspects.

[Hasan] You know that the Labor Party's approval is not enough, especially after Shamir and Arens showed reservations.

[Basyuni] Shamir said that first he wants an Arab partner that accepts the Israeli initiative, and then he will reply to the 10 points. This does not mean that Shamir has agreed, but he will give a reply when he finds an Arab partner.

[Hasan] Shamir has even refused to discuss these points during the inner cabinet meeting.

[Basyuni] The 10 points have not yet been presented to the Israeli Government. However, there are Labor Party ministers who call for presenting them to the government.

[Hasan] Your Excellency, you know that no action can be decided without the Likud's approval.

[Basyuni] We deal with governments, not with parties. Our relations are with the national coalition government as a whole. Israel should respond to peace calls. This is because if we do not seize the current opportunity, the situation would lead us to further violence.

[Hasan] Where could the 10 points eventually take us?

[Basyuni] To settling all aspects of the Palestine question in accordance with [UN Security Council] Resolutions 242 and 338, the principle of land for peace, and the political rights of the Palestinian people. This means their right to self-determination. However, I cannot give a solution before starting negotiations.

[Hasan] There are reports of a possible meeting between President Mubarak and Arens and Rabin. Is this meeting related to the 10 points?

[Basyuni] When an Israeli minister requests a meeting with President Mubarak, the meeting takes place if circumstances allow, for this is based on the president's belief that dialogue is the most important and best means to reach mutual understanding. Meeting with the Israeli ministers is useful to express Egyptian and Palestinian views. Therefore, the meeting is possible, but this depends on circumstances.

[Hasan] Does Egypt know the essence of the Israeli initiative and elections?

[Basyuni] We do not know the contents or the details of the Israeli initiative. Shamir wants to sell an initiative whose contents I do not know; I know only the outline. Shamir wants an Arab partner to an initiative whose details are unknown. It is impossible for an Arab partner to agree on something unknown. From this premise, we ask the Israeli Government to give us the details of the initiative so that we can decide whether to accept or reject it. This is the problem. The Egyptian 10 points will resolve the problem because they will define the Israeli initiative and the essence of the proposed elections.

[Hasan] Have the Palestinian figures in the occupied territories agreed on these 10 points?

[Basyuni] Signs indicate that the reactions are positive. This is because the points discuss land for peace. The 10 points were set in a manner that is almost accepted by the Palestinian side and by more than half of the Israeli people to melt the ice between the two sides and move toward peace.

[Hasan] Who will chose the Palestinian delegation, and will two deported Palestinians participate in the negotiations?

[Basyuni] The idea is that it is impossibe to divide the Palestinian people. So, if we want to settle the problem as a whole, we should settle all of its aspects whether inside or outside [the occupied territories]. It is true that we will begin the solution from inside, but this is connected to the Palestinians outside. Therefore, when we begin a discussion on elections and their procedures, the Palestinian delegation should include members from inside and two members from outside. However, we have not yet determined their names because the legitimate side that should do this is the PLO, and their names should be accepted by it.

[Hasan] There are now 200,000 Palestinians besieged in Nabulus, which is particularly suffering from food shortages. Israel also has escalated its iron-fist measures to quell the intifadah [uprising] by military force. What is Egypt's stand concerning these Israeli practices?

[Basyuni] The Egyptian Government has interfered, and the Egyptian foreign minister has issued the strongest statement on this issue. The statement touched strongly on the Israeli practices. We maintain a continuous contact with the Israeli Government in this regard. We also cooperate with all peace-loving forces in an attempt to lift the siege and put an end to the Israeli practices.

Press Responds to Egypt's 10-Point Plan

Procastination Warned Against

TA190916389 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 17 Sep 89 p 1

[Editorial: "The Israeli Government and the Ten Points"]

[Text] The Israeli Government has still not declared its official position regarding the Egyptian "10 points" at a time when not even one Israeli minister is left who has not expressed his opinion on these points either positively or negatively.

Some observers inside and outside the occupied land note that the Israeli Government's procrastination in this regard, the maintenance of political "ambiguity," and the wavering between "official" and "personal" in the expression of a series of viewpoints by Israeli policymakers stem principally from this government's desire that the categorical rejection of the proposed points would come from the Palestinian side. If that were to happen, the Israeli side would be immune to the political complications resulting from this rejection.

The PLO, however, has neither rejected nor accepted these points on a decisive level. This has made the Israeli desire seem akin to walking on a tightrope.

Thus the Egyptian initiative is fluctuating simultaneously in a circle of non-acceptance and non-rejection. At any rate this circle is neither frozen nor stagnant. Each side on his part is waiting for a certain step from the other side. This waiting is translated in the form of "conditions" by this side or that side in the interest of a specific understanding of the initiative whose effectiveness is growing daily.

This will not continue for long, however. If in the next few days the Israeli Government does not announce an official, clear, and explicit stance regarding these points,

its procrastination will be converted into a major political deadlock which in turn will reflect on the entire political reality of the current stage.

Obviously Washington has an exceptional role in this context. It is illogical, for example, that Washington also adopt a procrastinating position of simultaneous nonacceptance and non-rejection.

Important Aspect Lacking

TA1909165889 Jerusalem AL-SHAB in Arabic 19 Sep 89 pp 1, 7

[Editorial: "The Egyptian Ten Points"]

[Text] The intensive meetings and diplomatic contacts witnessed recently in the Egyptian capital have been mainly devoted to discussion of the "Egyptian 10 points" announced by President Husni Mubarak in an attempt to break the stalemate in the Middle East peace process. These contacts came after talks in the region on "Shamir's plan" for elections had reached a dead end in view of the Israeli intransigence backed by the U.S. Administration.

The Egyptian 10 points do not constitute an integral Egyptian plan for resolving the conflict in the Middle East. This was affirmed by the Egyptian president yesterday, following his meeting with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. He said: These points are clarifications for some of the points mentioned in the Israeli initiative presented by Shamir for elections in the occupied territories.

Hence, we reaffirm that the Egyptian points lack an important clause which also does not exist in Shamir's plan. This clause is the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, which constitutes the crux of the conflict in the region. Elections in the occupied territories are not a goal in and of themselves. Rather, they are but the first link in a series of measures which ultimately must lead to salvation from the yoke of occupation and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on national soil. Because of this fact, the Palestinian people and its leadership, the PLO, should be given international guarantees from the outset regarding the right to self-determination. In this manner the issue of elections will not become the final product of the international diplomatic move aimed at achieving a real and just peace in the region.

If the diplomatic move witnessed in the Egyptian arena produces guarantees regarding the right to self-determination and the affirmation of the unity of our people inside and outside, we can say that the peace process may witness a noticeable momentum in the coming stage represented in the start of Palestinian-Israeli negotiations in Cairo on elections in the occupied territories. On the other hand, the Israeli arena may witness a split between the two heads of the Israeli Government, Labor and Likud, and consequently preparations for new elections in Israel.

AL-QUDS Pessimistic

TA1909170189 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 19 Sep 89 p 7

[Editorial: "Intensive Diplomatic Moves, But..."]

[Text] These days the Egyptian capital is witnessing intensive diplomatic moves. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat visited Cairo twice within 2 days. Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson, famous for his mediation between the PLO and the U.S. Administration, also visited the Egyptian capital. Yesterday Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin held talks in Cairo which Egyptian President Husni Mubarak described as "fruitful."

There is no doubt that Egyptian decisionmakers are holding contacts with the Arab states. The Egyptian president's adviser, Dr Usamah al-Baz, made a short and unexpected visit to the Jordanian capital.

It is no secret to anyone that the Egyptian 10 points constitute the main topic of all these moves, particularly with regard to the formation of a Palestinian delegation from inside and outside to conduct talks with Israel on the idea of elections.

What can we expect from these moves?

Naturally an answer to this question requires cognizance of the official Israeli position regarding the principle of land in return for peace and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, as well as defining the final status of the occupied Arab lands. These points constitute the backbone of the Palestinian and Arab political strategy since the issuance of the resolutions of the fourth extraordinary Palestine National Council session held last year in Algiers and the resolutions of the Arab summit held in Casablanca last May.

As is common knowledge, Israel's official stance—from Labor and Likud—rejects the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. As for the principle of land in return for peace, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said 2 days ago that "the Likud's objection to the Egyptian proposals are crystal clear," and referred specifically to his party's rejection of this principle.

Irrespective of the intensity of political and diplomatic moves and news agency reports, these will not lead to breaking the stalemate as long as Israel continues to insist on rejecting these elements which constitute the core of the conflict in the region. Specifically, they are the principle of land in return for peace, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and determining the final status of the occupied lands.

Egyptian 10-Point Plan as Presented by Basyuni

TA1709111589 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 17 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] The following is a translation of the Egyptian 10-point document brought by Ambassador Basyuni from President Mubarak:

1. Israel will undertake to accept any results of the elections in the territories.

2. There will be full freedom of election campaigning.

3. The participation of Jerusalem residents in the elections will be guaranteed.

4. International observers will be stationed to supervise the elections.

5. The entry of Israelis into the West Bank and the Gaza Strip on election day will be forbidden.

6. The Israeli forces will withdraw from election centers.

7. The elected representatives will be granted absolute immunity.

8. Israel will undertake to launch talks for the final status of the occupied land at a date that will be specified.

9. All activities pertaining to settlements will be suspended.

10. Israel will accept the four principles of U.S. policy in the Middle East: The solution is to be based on (UN Security Council Resolutions) 242 and 338, land in return for peace, security for all countries in the region, and the confirmation of the Palestinians' political rights.

Radwan Abu-'Ayyash Comments on Cairo Talks

JN2009082889 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Three Palestinian figures from the territories are expected to return from a visit to Egypt tomorrow. They are Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, president of the Journalists Association, and Lawyers Jamil al-Tarifi and Ghassan al-Shak'ah. Radwan abu-'Ayyash met with several Egyptian officials before Defense Minister Rabin met with President Mubarak. These officials included Dr 'Ismat 'abd-al-Majid and Dr Usamah al-Baz. In a telephone interview from Cairo Radwan abu-'Ayyash told our correspondent Yoni ben-Menahem that the idea of forming a Palestinian delegation at this stage is still premature and is the prerogative of the PLO. Abu-'Ayyash affirmed that the Palestinian figures currently on a visit to Cairo have nothing to do with what is taking place between Israel and Egypt on the one hand, or with what is being said about the formation of a Palestinian delegation for talks with Israel on elections in the territories on the other.

HA'ARETZ Calls for Understanding With Egypt

TA1909123389 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Sep 89 p 13

[Editorial: "Maintaining a Channel of Dialogue"]

[Text] It is no small wonder that Defense Minister Rabin's trip to Cairo has raised great interest. After Shamir, Rabin should be considered the Israeli Government "strongman." Though the Egyptian president is still unwilling to meet with the prime minister, the invitation extended to the defense minister indicates that Husni Mubarak is seeking an understanding with Israel.

Everyone noticed the fact that in the sessions held by the "forum of four," Rabin had maintained a position that did not correspond to the one presented by the Likud representatives. The fact that Yitzhaq Shamir did agree to Rabin's positive reply to the Egyptian invitation could lead to the conclusion that despite the disagreements with the Alignment representatives, Shamir does not want to block an additional attempt to reach an understanding between Jerusalem and Cairo.

The long conversation Rabin and Mubarak held, although described as fruitful, has not settled the differences between the two capitals. The major dispute focuses on the issue of the composition of the Palestinian delegation: Mubarak remains firm in maintaining that the delegation should include Palestinians from abroad, in addition to those residing in the territories. The reference probably includes those who were forced to abandon their homes as a result of deportation decrees issued by the Israeli regime.

The Likud has rejected this outright. As the Likud is determined not to negotiate with the PLO under any circumstances, it logically follows that it would rule out men like Akram Haniyah and Muhammad Milhim, who were deported because of activities in the spirit of the PLO while in Israel.

Yitzhaq Rabin went to Cairo on behalf of the Israeli Government. If we take into account the fact that the Alignment also adheres to the principle that no negotiations should be held with the PLO, it is no small wonder that Rabin rejected Mubarak's appeal. Mubarak is possibly trying to soften the PLO position in his contacts with the leadership of the organization. In his meetings with Israeli representatives, however, he speaks for it and presents the PLO demands as Egyptian.

The extent to which Mubarak identifies with the PLO leadership in Tunis can be seen in the fact that he relayed to Yitzhaq Rabin 'Arafat's expression of willingness to come to Jerusalem and meet the Israeli Government. On the other hand, Mubarak keeps rejecting the idea that he meet face to face with Yitzhaq Shamir. He would be willing to attend such a meeting only if his is guaranteed in advance that it will yield "something big." Does the

Egyptian president truly believe that "something big" could come out of 'Arafat's visit to Jerusalem?

It is possible that if Israel rejects the proposal, 'Arafat might win the praises of the Western media. If Mubarak, however, wants to pay the middleman between Israel and the Palestinians, he should know there is no point in taking a second step before the first. A meeting between the Egyptian president and the Israeli prime minister must constitute the first step.

Rabin's conversation with Mubarak is no substitute for a Shamir-Mubarak summit. If 'Arafat is ever to be accepted here as a welcome guest, this can only be based on a full understanding between Israel and Egypt.

At present, there seems to be no such understanding, and further efforts are probably needed. One can only hope that the lines of communication will remain open, despite the disagreements seen in the meeting between the Egyptian president and the Israeli defense minister. One can only hope that Rabin, who while in Cairo defended the Israeli position with which Egypt disagrees, will exert his influence on Yitzhaq Shamir to explore ways to soften his steadfast position, particularly regarding the composition of the Palestinian delegation.

It is highly desirable that Jerusalem and Cairo think along the same lines. It would be a shame if we allow the PLO issue to come between Jerusalem and Cairo.

Change in Gaza Policy Causes Drop in Curfew Days

TA2009092989 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Sep 89 p 3

[Report by Avi Bnayahu]

[Text] A radical change in the policy of imposing curfews in the Gaza Strip has been noticed during the past 2 months. Since July a 75 percent decline in curfew days has been registered. At the same time, special units have increased initiated operations and acts against local terrorist targets.

Military sources have attributed the change in policy to the newly appointed commander of the Southern Command who, according to them, does not favor collective punishments and encourages local actions only. The sources noted as an example the day marking the 7th anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacre. After prolonged debate it was decided not to impose preemptive curfews in the Gaza Strip, although these days have been very tense.

IDF [Israel Defense Forces] data show that in March there were 125 curfew days in the Gaza Strip; in April there were 143; 151 in May; 101 in June; while in July there were 38. In August only 36 curfew days were registered.

'Huge' Fire Reported in Mount Carmel Forest

JN2009092589 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Excerpts] A huge fire broke out in the Mount Carmel forests near Haifa University this morning. The fire spread over an area of 10 kilometers, destroying tens of thousands of trees. Our correspondent Wahbah Hassun reported that all fire brigades in the area of Haifa and the north rushed to extinguish the fire, exerting every effort to prevent the fire from spreading to populated areas. Aircraft were also used to stop the flames from spreading. Our correspondent reports that the main Daliyat el Karmel-Haifa road was closed for several hours for fear of accidents taking place.

Our correspondent Salman Tawil says that efforts continue to extinguish the fire, which is still raging in the Carmel wildlife reserve, and that flames are ravaging the area, particularly near Kibbutz Beit Oren. Children and old people from this Kibbutz have been moved to Kibutz 'Ayn Carmel. [passage omitted] Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-lev and several ranking police officers in the northern area arrived on the scene this afternoon. Bar-lev said that police had arrested several suspects and that they are from the minorities. He described the fire as a premeditated incident, adding that it broke out simultaneously in five different areas. He added that the police will draw the necessary conclusions from this incident. [passage omitted]

Shamir Blames Hostile Elements

TA2009093789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] The prime minister has said that the Carmel Forest fire was set by hostile elements whose wanted to destroy everything living in this country. It endangers the safety of all inhabitants, especially those involved in these hostile acts, he said. He has no doubt that Israel will capture those responsible and punish them.

Mr Shamir made the remarks in an interview to the Voice of Israel's Arabic service. In reply to a question, the prime minister said it was not the first time that the intifadah [uprising] has gone too far and has shown that it must be stopped for the good of all the country's inhabitants.

Earlier, the police affairs minister briefed the prime minister on the fire. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that Minister Bar-Lev said that arson is suspected, but that it has not been confirmed. The wind is still fanning the fire, but fire fighters are in control of the situation. Large forces made up of fire fighters, policemen, and soldiers are stationed in the area, and Kibbutz Bayt Oren is no longer endangered. Mr Shamir asked Minister Bar-Lev to convey his words of encouragement to all those involved in extinguishing the fire.

The Tehiya Knesset faction said that in order to put out the fire of the uprising, the intifadah must be dealt with

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TA2009094

aves for Hungary To Sign Agreement

20 Sep 89 p

9 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew

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[Text] Comm
Budapest ab
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unications Minister Gad Ya'aqobi left for
ard an El Al plane yesterday. He is the first
r to arrive in Hungary on an official visit
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is scheduled to meet the Hungarian prime
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tion between the two countries will be
ultaneously in Budapest and in Israel.

The minister
experts from

is accompanied by economic and liaison
is office. The official visit will last 3 days.

Paper Says N

TA1909154189

o Apology Needed for Missile Launch

19 Sep 89 p 1

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew

[Commentary

by Ze'ev Schiff: "No Need To Apologize"]

[Excerpts] The
Israel test fire
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recent Soviet announcement alleging that
a missile at a distance of 1,300 km into
ean Sea stands out from similar reports in
r to the launch of the Israeli satellite,
occasionally appear in various magazines
world saying that Israel had developed
urface-to-surface missile with a range of
[passage omitted]

The proliferati
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fon of surface-to-surface missiles in the
eatured prominently in talks between
ashington, and was discussed in Moscow
nd Soviet military experts as early as the
. The Americans were trying to persuade
the need to prevent the sale of advanced
missile manufacturing, and told the Rus-
as important because the territory of the
omes within missile range of Middle East

The two super
late, and in fac

powers, however, realized this fact too
t have lost control of the situation. At
most, they can only slow the pace of missile development, or perhaps influence the orientation of this development (such as the range of the missiles). They cannot, however, prevent the process.

Ironically enough, this loss of control took place after the two superpowers signed the INF agreement.

Perhaps this is why Moscow refuses to supply medium-range SS-23's to Syria and Iraq, in spite of the fact that it was Moscow, more than anybody else, that promoted the missile race in the Middle East by supplying FROG's and SCUD's to almost every Arab country. The United States supplied Israel only with the Lance, a tactical-range missile.

The United States and the Soviet Union are no longer the only players on the stage; they have been joined by other missile manufacturers: the PRC, Argentina, Brazil, and Pakistan. [passage omitted]

Therefore, if we are to believe foreign publications, several countries already possess missiles capable of reaching the southern boundaries of the Soviet Union. Moscow complains about Israel; but what about Saudi Arabia and its Chinese missiles (with a range of 3,000 km), and Iraq which has increased the range of its Soviet missiles and claims to have a missile with a range of 900 km? Israel need not apologize in the face of the arms race raging around it, nor view itself as a criminal for having launched a satellite into space. This is our right. In view of the present situation, a space satellite can be considered necessary, and if a peace agreement is ever signed between Israel and the Arab countries resulting in territorial concessions, this satellite could be an important monitoring tool in preventing surprises.

For this reason the Israeli reaction to the Soviet allegation was unsatisfactory. Israel should have said "no comment" rather than give the impression of apologizing or playing dumb, as if we had been caught with our pants down. Any child will tell you that if Israel can launch a satellite into space it can also fire long-range missiles. If the Soviet Union is troubled, the practical thing for it to do is to address its concerns to Jerusalem rather than to Washington. Moreover, if foreign publications are reporting the truth, there may be something to talk about.

According to the latest publications, Israel should also be interested in having Moscow discuss problems with Jerusalem rather than "pay" Washington for this service.

Kimche Lectures at Moscow Foreign Ministry

TA1909184889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] David Kimche, former director general of the Foreign Ministry and president of the Israel Foreign Relations Council, yesterday delivered a lecture to the

senior political forum of the Foreign Ministry in Moscow. The lecture was held as part of the Soviet World Economics and International Relations Institute's activities. Its director, Professor Radomir Bogdanov [title as heard], pointed out that Dr Kimche's lecture was an extraordinary event which would have been inconceivable a year ago; all the more so, considering that Dr Kimche did not always treat the Soviet Union in a positive manner. This is reported by our correspondent Menahem Friedman.

Correction to 'Arafat To Adopt 'Swedish Plan'

TA1909124289

The following correction pertains to the item headlined ""Arafat To Adopt 'Swedish Initiative,'" published in the 19 September Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 24:

page 24, column one, paragraph three, line six, make read: ...Committee to 'Arafat's [as published] 10-point plan, he... (adding editorial notation)

Statement Welcomes Renewed Committee Efforts

JN1909125089 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Amman—The Foreign Ministry issued a statement today expressing Jordan's welcome and satisfaction over the Arab tripartite committee's resumption of the noble duty entrusted to it by the Arab summit to end the Lebanese crisis.

The statement affirmed that Jordan supports and backs the committee because of its pan-Arab commitment, and its concern for Arab solidarity, preservation of Arab land and rights, saving Lebanon from the abnormal situation it is experiencing, ridding the people of the complete destruction they have suffered for many years, and enabling Lebanon to practice its sovereignty over all its territory.

It called on all sides to respond speedily to the tripartite committee's call and to remove all obstacles that could frustrate its pan-Arab and humanitarian efforts.

The Foreign Ministry affirmed that the Arab solution represented by the committee's efforts is a sound and productive way to end this bloody tragedy. The ministry supports the committee because it represents the will and policy of all the Arab countries in their attempts to solve the crisis in a way that guarantees the Arab identity and independence of Lebanon, saves the region from the dangers of balkanization and fragmentation, ends the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon, and the foreign presence and influence in the Lebanese arena.

Al-Qasim Says 10-Point Plan Will Test Israelis

JN1909114289 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 19 Sep 89 pp 1, 16

[Text] Amman—Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the Egyptian president's 10-point plan is a test of the Israeli side's seriousness to achieve a just and lasting peace.

In an interview with an AL-DUSTUR correspondent and a number of journalists after the reception ceremony for the Swedish king at Amman airport yesterday, Al-Qasim added: The concept of elections in the occupied territories is not rejected by anybody, particularly the Palestinian side whose stand was made clear at the Casablanca summit. Any elections held in the occupied Arab territories are a way of enabling the Palestinian people to realize their political aspirations within the self-determination concept.

If elections are held according to internationally recognized norms, they will then lead to a comprehensive and just solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Asked if the Egyptian initiative is an initiative or mere ideas, the minister said: First of all, we did not say it was an initiative. They are points to test Israeli intentions and develop the concept from which the Israeli position stems, a concept that could thwart the meaning of a comprehensive settlement. Through this Egyptian proposal and the reactions to it, we will see if there is a genuine trend and credibility on the Israeli side toward contributing to a peaceful and comprehensive solution to the problem. Since November 1988, the PLO has adopted a positive stand on all international, regional, UN, and nonaligned levels which support the moderate Palestinian stand. What is required now is to move the Israeli stand to correspond with the peace demands.

Replying to a question by AL-DUSTUR on the Arab tripartite committee's work to establish peace and the latest eruption in the situation in Lebanon, Al-Qasim said: Our position supports the continuation of the Arab tripartite committee's attempts to improve Lebanon's situation. This is a valuable achievement. As we said before, we took part in formulating the summit's resolution. It is our wish that there will be full cooperation among all parties involved in the Lebanese conflict, and that they will participate in removing the obstacles encountered by the tripartite committee during the first phase. However, there are some positive signs in sight. In view of the statement we heard yesterday, we believe that there is a new development which, we believe, will lead to implementing a cease-fire, opening the crossing points, and banning arms shipments that could obstruct the work of the tripartite committee. We believe that there is no alternative to the Arab solution of the Lebanese crisis. If we, as the Arab world, reach a dead end, God forbid, the way would regrettably be opened to further deterioration, fragmentation, and divisions.

Concerning guarantees to secure a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon, Al-Qasim said: I believe that when the Arab tripartite committee resumed its efforts, there had been assurances to help the committee save Lebanon, restore normalcy to the situation, restore stability and independence to Lebanon, and enable it to exercise sovereignty over all its territories. The tripartite committee must be given sufficient opportunity. When reforms are achieved and the national accord government is formed—a government concerned with drawing up Lebanese national policy—then the situation will be better for tackling all these issues.

Regarding Jordan's support for the Egyptian 10-point plan, the minister said: I did not see the message carried by Dr al-Baz since I was busy with the Chinese guest visiting Jordan. What we hope for is to receive Israel's response before the PLO's. This is because the PLO will not say no to elections as long as they are fair and free. They are part of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. They also are linked to the Palestine question's final solution—a solution that includes an international conference, which is the final place to achieve a comprehensive solution. Indeed, there are three other Arab states involved in this process along with the PLO.

Al-Qasim concluded by saying that the elections are only one of several points which, we believe, must be accomplished before the comprehensive solution to the problem.

On the possiblity of 'Arafat visiting Jordan in the immediate future, he said that the leaders of the Arab Cooperation Council countries would meet in Sanaa next week.

Swedish Ministers Continue Visit to Amman

Foreign Ministers Meet

JN1909121489 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met this morning at the Foreign Ministry with Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson. They reviewed bilateral relations and means of promoting them in all fields, expressing satisfaction with the current good level of these relations. Mr al-Qasim praised Sweden's participation in providing aid to Jordanian development plans, projects, and social and humanitarian endeavors.

The two sides exchanged views on important Arab and international political issues. On the Middle East question, Al-Qasim affirmed the need to continue efforts toward establishing a just, comprehensive, and permament peace in the region based on UN Security Council Resolution 242, which Jordan has accepted since 1967, and for which Arab unanimity has been rallied to accept, through convening an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations and the participation of all concerned sides and permament members of the international Security Council.

Mr al-Qasim praised the positive and constructive role currently played by Sweden concerning the region's issues. Mr Andersson lauded Jordan's important role under the leadership of King Husayn regarding the region's issues especially the Palestine question. He expressed his country's willingness to exert further efforts toward establishing peace in the Middle East.

The two sides also reviewed the Lebanese crisis and expressed satisfaction over the higher tripartite committee's decision to resume its duties to establish peace in Lebanon and preserve its unity, independence, and security of its territories.

They also reviewed the situation between Iraq and Iran and agreed on the need to exert all efforts to hasten implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598 and to encourage direct negotiations between the two sides to set up a permanent and comprehensive peace between the two neighboring countries.

The meeting was attended by the secre
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to Sweden, and a number of rankin
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Foreign Minister Meets
JN1909132589 Amman AL-RAY in A
19 Sep 89 pp 1, 16
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[Report by Rabab Manko]

[Text] Amman—Swedish Foreig
Andersson has described his meetin
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in Amman yesterday, the Swedish fo
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Andersson said that his meeting with
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He explained that preliminary arrang
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He said: Sweden seeks to enable the
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Andersson arrived in Amman at noo
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The Swedish foreign minister comm
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During the meeting, 'Innab reviewed Jordan's achievements in the field of economy, the recent difficulties it has gone through, the measures adopted by the Jordanian Government to overcome these difficulties, and the government's programs in this respect. [passage omitted]

The Swedish minister expressed his appreciation for the hospitality accorded him and paid tribute to Jordan's achievements. He also expressed optimism about the success of the reform program adopted by Jordan to face its recent economic crisis. [passage omitted]

Al-Qasim Interviewed on Regional Issues

PM1509143089 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 13 Sep 89 p 3

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim by Zaki Shihab in Belgrade; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Shihab] Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Amman was described as one of his "most cordial" visits to the Jordanian capital. How was it?

[Al-Qasim] On the contrary, there have long been good relations between Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and Jordan, especially since the Palestine National Council session in Algiers and the stances adopted by brother Abu-'Ammar, both in Sweden and at the United Nations in Geneva. It has become clear that Jordan's and the PLO's views regarding a political solution are very similar. As a result of the disengagement of links [with the West Bank] more trust has emerged in dealings with the PLO brothers. We in Jordan will always back the PLO in its course, which, God willing, will eventually lead to the upholding of the Palestinians' legitimate rights and the Palestinian brothers' right to self-determination on Palestinian territory, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. We respect what they decide for themselves.

[Shihab] What is the possibility of a return to work under the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement?

[Al-Qasim] There is no longer any need for that agreement, because its original objective was to help the PLO convey its viewpoint to the U.S. Administration. That was done through the Palestinian position, recognition of Resolution 242, the renunciation of terrorism, and recognition of the right of all the region's states to live in security and peace. That eliminated any U.S. justifications for not holding a dialogue with the PLO. The agreement was a vehicle designed to lead the Palestinian position to the stage it has reached now. [passage omitted]

[Shihab] The U.S.-Palestinian dialogue is at a standstill, and the PLO says the United States espouses the Israeli viewpoint.

[Al-Qasim] In our view, the Palestinian course is achieving results with regard to some members of the U.S. Administration. But most importantly there is a real and clear change within Israeli society. If negotiations are ultimately to be held, they will not be between the United States and the PLO, but between the PLO and Israel within the framework of our comprehensive concept; namely, through an international conference to secure a political settlement including all the Arab parties and Israel.

[Shihab] Do you believe that the international conference will be held in the foreseeable future?

[Al-Qasim] If we want to achieve real peace in the region, it must be done through the international conference. I say this because it is not Palestine alone which is concerned with Israel. There are other Arab territories—including Lebanese, Jordanian, and Syrian territories—which are occupied by Israel. This is why we advocate a comprehensive and complete solution in order to recover Arab rights in return for peace.

[Shihab] What efforts are being made at the Arab diplomatic level to remove the obstacles to president 'Arafat's U.S. visit?

[Al-Qasim] I have not been aware of this, and Yasir 'Arafat, as a head of state, has the right to visit the United Nations, whether in Geneva or New York. Of course he is going there to confirm the Palestinian position's commitment to achieving peace. It would be difficult for someone to say: Do not enter, because you are coming for the sake of peace. If the opposite is required, some may understand why the U.S. Administration is opposed to his entry or to granting him an entry visa.

[Shihab] Jordan is quietly playing a role in resolving the Afghan crisis through meetings held by King Husayn. What efforts are being made at that level?

[Al-Qasim] In the past, friendly Muslim states asked us to try to remove some of the obstacles facing the parties involved in the Afghan problem. The objective was to remove those obstacles. By doing so, we would spare our brothers in Afghanistan further killing, bloodshed, and destruction. Of course these efforts have always been made in constant consultation with other Arab brothers wanting to help Afghanistan.

[Shihab] Do you expect these efforts to bear fruit soon?

[Al-Qasim] Of course we hope there will be a relaxation. That relaxation requires unified stances from the parties representing one side so they can negotiate with the other side. As for the present situation, unfortunately we perceive a weakening and an obstruction of these efforts. [passage omitted]

[Shihab] Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian negotiations, do you believe they will progress in view of the efforts made by De Cuellar in Belgrade?

[Al-Qasim] At this kind of conference, there must be more of a response to requirements for establishing peace between two states such as Iraq and Iran. As you know, since the outset, and since 8 August 1988, Iraq—with its good and superior military position—Iraq has responded to the United Nations and the Security Council with regard to adopting a cease-fire. At the same time the idea was to hold direct talks that would culminate in the implementation of Resolution 598 as a complete solution, not merely the parts of it chosen to benefit one side at the other's expense. The international resolution is complete; it gives the two states scope for better coexistence and guarantees both sides' rights, sovereignty, and noninterference in each other's affairs.

That is what we hope will be achieved. As for the continuation of the present situation—that is, the state of neither war nor peace—it could explode in the future and once again engulf the region in flames. This does not concern Iraq alone; it concerns all Arab states.

With the presence of a new Iranian political leadership, which is said to represent moderation in Iran, we hope that this moderation will materialize in the proffering of a hand for the sake of peace.

[Shihab] Since the Casablanca summit—and specifically since King Husayn declared his country's position on the Lebanese issue and the moves that followed that—there have been reports of some kind of coolness in relations between Jordan and Syria because of your demand that Arab forces be dispatched to Lebanon.

[Al-Qasim] I do not think so. Our brothers in Syria and elsewhere are well aware of Jordan's position and interest in the Arab issues. From my view as a Jordanian, my main concern is that we Arab states must understand the meaning of pan-Arab national security. What is required of us all is to salvage Lebanon and that is an Arab task first and foremost.

Salvaging Lebanon would help others, so that their energies and capabilities will not be exhausted in an Arab country.

A good Lebanese position and a good Syrian position would support and comfort Jordan in the areas of security and pan-Arabism. I do not want an Israeli proposal to provide the opportunity for the destruction of Lebanon. When we made our proposal through his majesty's speech at the Casablanca summit, everything was clear regarding Jordan's good intentions. We wanted an Arab peace force there—a force made up of several Arab states so no one can say it supports one party against another in Lebanon. Such a force would have influence in the Lebanese, Arab, and international fields—psychological, political, moral, and material influence. This is needed to restore order to the Lebanese home under Lebanese authority and Lebanese sovereignty over Lebanese territory as a whole. [passage omitted]

[Shihab] How will the elections affect political life in Jordan and the situation in general, especially since this will be the first time they have been held for a long time?

[Al-Qasim] Of course the elections to be held in November will be the first complete major elections since 1967. So those who were born in 1967 will start exercising their right now. Those who had not reached the legal age of maturity at that time will also have the right to vote. You must bear in mind, however, that we have held by-elections for the past 3 years. Some exercised their right in certain positions which were not comprehensive.

But this is a new situation, and we believe that Jordan is preparing to give its sons the opportunity to participate genuinely through a responsible chamber of deputies. [passage omitted]

Jardanah on Debt Repayment, Balance of Payments

JN1709092689 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Sep 89 p 1

[By Ghadir al-Tahir, JORDAN TIMES staff writer]

[Text] Amman—Jordan has not only rescheduled its debt and interest repayments but will also post a surplus in its balance of payments for the year 1989, Finance Minister Basil Jardanah said Saturday.

"Now we have managed to reschedule $700 million in debt repayments and interest for the year 1989 and we have received substantially higher Arab aid than the $296 million we had expected this year," Jardanah told the JORDAN TIMES in an interview.

The finance minister outlined the measures Jordan adopted since the beginning of the year to address its foreign debt which stood at $8.3 billion—including $1.1 billion in undisbursed funds.

Before rescheduling its debts to Western government creditors and commercial institutions, Jordan faced debt repayments of $1.21 billion in 1989 and $1.28 billion in 1990. The Kingdom has now reached agreements with both the Paris Club of major Western creditors and the London Club of commercial banks to reschedule a total of $520 million in principal repayments and $110 million in interest, Jardanah said. It has also reached an agreement in principle with the Soviet Union to reschedule payment of $74 million for this year. Officials have said that the agreement covered $190 million in debt payments to the Soviet Union, representing the amounts for the year 1989 and 1990.

"Our situation is far more comfortable than it was in terms of covering (the financial gap of $900 million which was announced in June)," Jardanah said. "Rescheduling is on schedule and what applies in 1989 applies in 1990 although it is premature for me to go into specific details now," he added.

The minister referred to International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates which put Jordan's financial shortfall at $656 million for the year 1989 and $622 million for 1990 if the Kingdom was not to reschedule any of its debt repayment, received $296 million in Arab aid and the level of imports reached a certain level.

Although the IMF put the Kingdom's import bill at $2.61 billion for 1989, the actual figure is likely to be $300 million less, the minister said. "But the IMF estimates could have been optimistic on other considerations, for example in earnings from transport, he said. "So the deficit and surplus will most likely offset each other."

The IMF's Arab aid figures for 1989 far exceeded the projected $296 million which helps account for the surplus in the balance of payments this year, the minister added.

Amman reached agreement with the IMF in April on a restructuring programme which set the groundwork for rescheduling negotiations with its creditors.

Jardanah gave a breakdown of the Kingdom's total foreign debts as of Dec. 31, 1988: The Kingdom owes $3.3 billion to industrialised countries, mainly West European nations and Japan; $1.1 billion to commercial banks, $1.8 billion to international agencies and Arab funds which do not have rescheduling terms, $800 million to leasing (including amounts involved aircraft leasing by Royal Jordanian) [as published] and special bonds; and $1.3 billion to other creditors, mainly the Soviet Union. The total of $8.3 billion, represents "committed loans," Jardanah said. The amount of undisbursed funds included in the total is $1.1 billion he said, epxlaining that the Kingdom's actual debt stood at $7.2 billion.

Jardanah pointed out that repayments to aid agencies do not pose a burden to the treasury because "they are on a continuous basis and the country receives more than it pays."

Jordan and the World Bank are currently discussing a $150 million concessionary loan to support the Kingdom's balance of payments. But Jardanah does not expect the loan to be disbursed during the current year, since Jordan has already posted a surplus in balance of payments for 1989. An expected co-financer for the loan is Japan, which will provide a similar amount, the minister added.

The finance minister confirmed that he was leaving for Washington later this week for talks with World Bank and IMF officials, but said the meetings were only a "review session" of the austerity measures that Jordan had adopted.

"The fundamentals (of the Jordanian economy) as they stand today are encouraging... there is a danger that rumours and speculation could damage the dinar," he said. But he voiced optimism that ongoing talks in Tunis between the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) and its counterparts from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members would be successful to attract deposits from the GCC central banks to boost the Kingdom's reserves and thus help counter "any such speculation" against the Jordanaian dinar.

The minister said it was too early to define the terms of the expected deposits since "everything is subject to the Tunis negotiations" between CBJ Governor Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi and his GCC counterparts who were meeting on the fringes of a conference of Arab central banks.

Jardanah said there was a marked improvement in homeward remittances made by Jordanian expatriates as reflected by several indicators. One of the indicators was a "substantial increase in real estate purchases by Jordanian expatriates during July, August and September." He said he could not give any figures for expected expatriate remittances, which totaled $800 million last year. Nabulsi has put the figure at about $1 billion.

ries 'Awn on Syrian Withdrawal

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18 Sep 89 p 23

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but now you are demanding the withdrawal of Syrian artillery from the Beirut heights.

'Awn: Gen 'Awn withdrew the artillery as a gesture of goodwill. That is all.

AL-ANBA': Regarding the eastern area, is there an understanding of the mechanism for explaining the situation in the eastern area to the committee?

'Awn: There is a government in the eastern area that speaks for the people there. We hold consultations, but decisions are made by the government. Whoever tries to negotiate agreements with parties other than the government should ask them to carry them out.

AL-ANBA': You ask for the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from West Beirut and the suburbs without the existence of any security alternative. Why is that?

'Awn: There are the I Army Corps and VI Army Corps Brigades and also other forces.

AL-ANBA': Can they control the situation? Past experience is not encouraging.

'Awn: They can in an atmosphere of political understanding.

AL-ANBA': How do you view the efforts of the tripartite Arab committee? Winter has come, and most of the Lebanese people are displaced and without schools.

'Awn: I believe that the international and regional conditions are good. But I would like to ask: Do they want the Lebanese to learn?

Hizballah Statement Calls for Overthrow of 'Awn

LD1909191289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] In a statement today, the Hizballah Revolutionary Movement of Lebanon condemns the crimes committed by Michel 'Awn in shelling Muslim residential areas in the southern district of Beirut and calls on all Islamic and nationalist forces to continue their struggles toward the overthrow of 'Awn and the Maronite regime of Lebanon.

According to the Central News Unit, this statement emphasizes that these kinds of crimes not only do not undermine our determination, but rather, increase our resistance and steadfastness in the face of the enemy's criminal plans.

'Awn Hits U.S. 'Hypocritical Role' in Lebanon

PM2009091489 Paris LIBERATION in French 12 Sep 89 pp 26-7

[Interview with military government head Michel 'Awn by Marc Kravetz; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] LIBERATION: On 14 March you launched the "liberation war against the Syrian occupation of Lebanon." What is your assessment of the past 6 months of war?

Michel 'Awn: I have succeeded in isolating Syria in the Arab world and internationally. Previously emphasis was always being placed on Syria's "positive role" in Lebanon. Now for the first time the tripartite committee established by the Arab summit in Casablanca has condemned Syria's obstruction of the quest for a solution and Syria's refusal to recognize Lebanese sovereignty. The entire world has become aware. Europe has acknowledged that the Syrian troops' withdrawal from Lebanon is a necessity in order for Lebanon to regain peace. The UN secretary general has taken the Security Council's advice on the Lebanese question. Lebanon was one of the topics broached during the meeting between Presidents Mitterrand and Gorbachev. Perhaps this may not have been sufficiently noticed, but this is the first time that a western power has agreed with Russia on the Lebanese question. The pope has sent eloquent letters to several heads of state. During the past 6 months Lebanon has been in the forefront of the international news as a problem to be resolved.

LIBERATION: However, a certain prominent party is absent in this context...

Michel 'Awn: Yes, the United States. It has played a hypocritical role by pretending to be on Lebanon's side in resolving its crisis, while working to undermine matters by granting a free hand to Syria and Israel, which want to destroy Lebanon. I can understand why the Americans are exasperated by my behavior. They cannot tolerate our having prompted this international awareness. This is why they evacuated their embassy—not because of 500 or 1,00 demonstrators.

LIBERATION: According to the State Department, American diplomats' safety was threatened.

Michel 'Awn: I have already answered this in my press conference. This explanation does not hold water. The Americans could feel at home here, as they still can. They have nothing to fear from terrorism and hostage takers.

LIBERATION: What are you demanding from the Americans on the political plane?

Michel 'Awn: To adopt a clear stance. If the United States really is in favor of Lebanon's independence, integrity, and sovereignty, its deeds must match its words. At the moment the United States is exerting pressure on Iraq to stop its supplies to the Lebanese Army. Can you explain that? I put this question not to the American leaders but to the American people: Is it I who am occupying Lebanon, laying siege to Damascus? Is it I who am plundering Syrian villages? Can someone tell me why the United States is putting pressure on a country that wants to help a friendly country that is under siege? The complicity here between Damascus and Washington must be recognized. It is nothing new: Remember the Murphy-al-Asad plan to impose Mikha'il Dahir on us as president. At the time the American charge d'affaires said: "If you do not accept this president, it will mean chaos; you will suffer; your country will be destroyed." Is it right for a diplomat to talk that way? [passage omitted]

LIBERATION: In the event of a solution—through the tripartite committee, for instance—would you accept as a condition for the lifting of the blockades an embargo on arms supplies to both sides?

Michel 'Awn: There will never be any embargo on the Syrian side. Who will monitor the Syrian borders? The Syrian ports? Embargoes always benefit the stronger side.

LIBERATION: So your answer is "no"...

Michel 'Awn: It is not just a matter of weapons or supplies. It is a matter of sovereignty. It is this very principle of sovereignty that I am defending. If it is accepted, if it is acknowledged that it is not my intention to attack another country, that I am defending myself in my own country, and that an embargo is being imposed on me, what does that mean? It means that every attempt is being made to crush Lebanon and the Lebanese resistance. I have explained this to all my interlocutors who have broached this issue, and they have admitted that an embargo was indeed not feasible. Why insist on this point? Why try in this way to grant an additional advantage to an aggressor that already possesses unlimited resources? [passage omitted]

Source Cites 'Awn on Arab Committee Plan

NC2009095289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] REUTER reported today the points in the tripartite Arab committee's plan that General 'Awn approves and disapproves. The agency described his attitude about the plan as flexible. Citing a source close to Gen 'Awn, REUTER said that he will cooperate with the Arab security proposals in a way that will not infringe on Lebanese sovereignty.

The source said that Gen 'Awn agreed on a cease-fire and on ending the Syrian naval blockade, but will not take part in a security committee that does not include the Syrians. He is ready to provide Ibrahimi, the proposed chairman of the security committee, officers to help him supervise the cease-fire, but not to oversee the arms shipments to the army. Gen 'Awn insisted that arms shipments to both the pro-Syria Islamic and Christian

militia must be banned or be allowed to both parties. However, no restrictions will be applied to the legitimate forces.

The source also said that Gen 'Awn strongly insisted on the separation between the Syrian withdrawal, and the presidential elections and reconciliation, because no reforms can be made if the Syrian forces remain in Lebanon. The source pointed out that Gen 'Awn said that all these reservations must be discussed, because Ibrahimi advised him that the Arab plan contains proposals for discussions and that all points can be amended.

REUTER cites a pro-Syria Islamic political source as saying that Gen 'Awn must accept the Arab plan as a whole or reject it, and accept whatever happens. The source said that if the security and political parts of the plan are separated, it would mean that Lebanon would be partitioned, which we would reject.

Envoy Ibrahimi Comments on Meeting With 'Awn

NC1909114089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Arab envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi met Prime Minister Michel General 'Awn for 45 minutes today. Ibrahimi then said: His Excellency Gen 'Awn told me that he is continually consulting and meeting with other leaders and that he will contact me tomorrow to inform me of the result of these consultations. I am still optimistic that we will be able to implement the contents of the document.

Journalists told Ibrahimi that the cease-fire decision was not implemented and that the Syrians shelled the eastern coast yesterday. Ibrahimi declined to comment, shoved the reporters aside, and went on his way. Ibrahimi then headed to the Phalangist headquarters where he went into a meeting with Phalangist Party Leader Dr George Sa'adah a short while ago.

Earlier in the day, Prime Minister 'Awn received the National Liberal Party Leader Dany Sham'un who said: We welcome the Arab envoy, but the document he is carrying is old and derived from the Casablanca summit; this is what Syria wanted all along.

Gen 'Awn also received USSR Ambassador Vasiliy Kolotusha at the latter's request. They reviewed the situation in Lebanon and Moscow's stand there. Ambassador Kolotusha said that his country wishes to make a practical and tangible contribution toward the success of the Arab peace mission in Lebanon, mentioning that the tripartite committee's efforts have a real chance for success.

Progress of Talks Cited

NC1909130589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the talks between General Michel 'Awn and Lakhdar Ibrahimi centered on the contents of the Jeddah document. East Beirut leaders will discuss these contents in detail. In this context, Gen 'Awn will meet this afternoon with a number of deputies.

According to reports, there are differences of opinion on certain points and issues. Ibrahimi is going to include these in a dossier he will take to Damascus to discuss with Syrian officials.

The Arab envoy plans to spend about 1 week in Lebanon, shuttling between the two sides of Beirut and paying visits to Damascus. The reason is that the Jeddah statement and the consequent document require thorough debate and study on the inter-Lebanese and Syrian-Lebanese levels.

Husayn al-Husayni and Dr Salim al-Huss today left for Damascus to discuss the Lebanese situation with Syrian officials.

Available reports also indicate progress on the security issue, particularly the cease-fire, the lifting of the blockade, the opening of the crossing points, and the security committee. However, the formation of the security committee has political overtones which are still being debated by the concerned parties.

The Arab envoy says that he is putting forward a cease-fire with a simultaneous dialogue on political reforms. As for the current proposals for political reforms, these remain only ideas which the Lebanese deputies should discuss and decide upon.

Ibrahimi Meets With Phalangist Leader Sa'adah

NC1909131389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Lakhdar Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary general, met with Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn this morning, and then with Phalangist Party leader Dr George Sa'adah.

The following is Ibrahimi's statement after his meeting with Dr Sa'adah:

[Begin recording] We thank brother leader Dr George Sa'adah for receiving us. As usual we had a good and useful discussion, which we are certain will be in Lebanon's interest. The brother leader asked certain questions we tried to answer. We are still optimistic about good results in this phase of our work. [end recording]

PSP Members, Ibrahimi Discusses Local Issues

NC2009105389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Arab Envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimni met Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] members Marwan Hamadah, Deputy Party Leader for Foreign Affairs Durayd Yaghi, and Political Bureau Member Akram Shuhayyib today to discuss local developments.

Mr Hamdah reasserted the nationalist forces' positive stand for Ibrahimi's mission and the seven-point statement.

Ibrahimi has also met with Ambassador 'Asim Jabir, director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and is now meeting with Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi.

Hizballah Commentary Scores Mubarak's 'Cuckoldry'

NC1909120089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Political commentary: "The U.S. Deal and the Arab Cuckold"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Collaboration, as understood by the layman, denotes the cooperation of a certain group in perpetrating a loathsome or evil act. The collaborator is seen as a loathsome and abominable person who cannot be trusted, particularly if he persists in his attitudes. As for cuckoldry, it is an advanced state of collaboration generally understood to denote a collaboration implying despicability and shadiness. Cuckoldry [diyathah] takes place when a man forces his wedded mate or female kin to engage in sin with little regard for reputation, rectitude, or dignity. From cuckoldry is taken the word cuckold [dayyuth], meaning the man who collaborates in total vileness against his own family honor, and compromises that honor in order to achieve a certain desire, gain money, or attain a position. [passage omitted]

What is taking place with regard to the Palestinian problem is political cuckoldry on a grand and unprecedented scale. Arab collaboration was well under way during the Casablanca and Amman summits, where all revolutionary stands and slogans were brushed aside and replaced by policies of conciliation with the enemy. But this sort of collaboration is being outdone by those who currently seek to give perpetual and lasting approval to the usurpation of the soil of Palestine and the occupied lands.

What is particularly distressing is that some Arabs are trying to sanction the Zionist usurpation which, despite international support, has failed to gain legitimacy for the past 40 years. A man by the name of Husni Mubarak has taken it upon himself to act as a salesman for the Zionist-U.S. usurpation plan. This Mubarak has lately come out with 10 points calling, among other things, for a Zionist-Palestinian dialogue and for the Palestinians to abandon their right to self-determination. Mubarak is thus trying to promote U.S. ideas in an attempt to revive Yitzhaq Shamir's plan for elections in the occupied territories. It is to be recalled that Shamir's plan had reached an impasse due to the differences of opinion between the PLO and the Zionist entity. [passage omitted]

Mubarak is trying to persuade the Palestinians to commit a sinful act. His aim is to gain permanent recognition and continued support for his regime and to obtain more U.S. wheat, hopefully as much as the fishes of the Atlantic ocean get. [sentence as heard]

Do the Arabs have any more qualms of conscience? Mubarak is trying to offer in peace what has been taken by force. Mubarak is propagating sin, just like a cuckold. He is one of those God Almighty said would go astray and then mislead the others. The Arabs have taken complete leave of their conscience, for none of Mubarak's peers is trying to dissuade or stop him. On the contrary, they are encouraging and praising him. Mubarak has an official mandate from the Casablanca Arab summit to legitimize the Zionist usurpation of Palestine. [passage omitted]

Al-Huss, Al-Husayni Arrive in Damascus 19 Sep

NC1909120989 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0930 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss arrived in Damascus before noon today for talks with senior officials on the developments in Lebanon in light of the resolutions which the Arab ministerial committee prepared in Jeddah recently.

Meet Officials, Return to Beirut

NC1909192889 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Former speaker Husayn al-Husayni and former prime minister Dr Salim al-Huss returned to Beirut tonight after meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam, People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, and Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi in Damascus. Dr al-Huss also met with Edward Djerejian, Washington's ambassador in Damascus.

Press sources in West Beirut have cited sources close to al-Huss as saying that during his meetings in Damascus the former prime minister received the impression that there is a serious attempt to ensure the success of the Arab efforts, that this attempt is decisive and genuine this time, and that the tripartite committee will not allow a repeat of what happened in the past efforts. These sources added that the political endeavor is too strong today to be eliminated by military obstacles, though they might delay it for some time.

Junblatt Comments on Arab Tripartite Committee

NC2009103089 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader Walid Junblatt said the political battle is a long one and that cooperation with all the so-called nationalist and Islamic forces is a preparation. He said that a large Maronite group is reluctant to recognize the principle of achieving constitutional reform.

Junblatt fears that the Arab tripartite commitee might have decided to resume its efforts hastily or that the committee had adopted its announced plan without guaranteeing international and regional pressure to put it into action.

He gave two reasons why there is no alternative to the tripartite committee: 1) no substitute for the Arab action in light of the absolute rejection of internationalizing the Lebanese crisis; and 2) the commitee might have decided to continue its efforts because it fears a repetition of what had happened on the Suq al-Gharb front and thus wants to preempt any military action by pressing for a cease-fire.

Junblatt said certain Arab countries had bet on freezing Syria's role in the region by confusing Damascus in Lebanon. These countries tried to neutralize Syria regarding the Lebanese crisis out of their belief that they will be able to impose the solution they want for the Lebanese problem.

He said Saudi Arabia is currently capable of playing a distinguished role.

Afghanistan

Mujahidin Active in Kabul, on Salang Highway

BK1909152989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin killed 57 Kabul regime troops in a fierce battle in (Gulsaz) in the Kabul area.

In another operation the mujahidin destroyed two tanks of a patrol unit of Kabul troops on Salang Highway. The reports say that the mujahidin attacked a military center of the Kabul regime in Charikar, arresting 19 troops, including 4 officers, and capturing a large quantity of arms.

Meanwhile, the reports say a senior commander of the Kabul troops, (Dost Muhammad Naiz), along with his deputy and 50 troops, joined the Afghan mujahidin in the provincial capital of [name indistinct]. Radio Tehran says they also surrendered their arms, including heavy artillery and missiles.

Government Details Missile Attacks, Battles

LD1909175789 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The BAKHTAR military section, quoting an authorized Armed Forces source, reported that the Armed Forces units and companies in Khowst major-district have strengthened their defense lines and positions. In retaliation to enemy attacks, they launched shattering artillery, air, and missile strikes. As a result, 16 extremists, Pakistani militarists, and Saudi Wahabis were killed and 26 were wounded. Two enemy [word indistinct] missile units, six mortars, and two recoilless guns were destroyed. The source adds that the armed forces units and companies stationed in Nangarhar Province, as a whole, are engaged in strengthening and equipping their defense positions. They have carried out a number of mopping up operations and pushed back an enemy offensive that had begun at the direction of Sorkh Rud. In the course of these operations and as a result of missile and artillery attacks, 26 enemies were killed and 25 were wounded. One missile unit, three mortars, and one recoilless gun were destroyed. During the operations, four Armed Forces personnel were wounded.

According to another report, the enemy attacked some security posts in Qandahar, to which the Armed Forces responded.

In the course of mopping up operations in the western part of Farah Province, 10 mortar rounds, 15 missile warheads, 25 hand grenades and four boxes of weapons and ammunition belonging to armed extremists and the Saudi Wahabis were seized.

As a result of heavy weapon-fire near Kalat City, two security forces personnel and five local people were wounded.

According to a separate report, in the course of mopping up operations in some regions in Nimruz Province, 15 missiles in an enemy convoy, eight assorted weapons, four trucks, and one tractor smuggling goods worth 70 million Afghani and 140 kg of opium, were seized by the Armed Forces units, along with a number of anti-state leaflets. During the operation, 15 enemy personnel, including one ringleader, Jamaloddin, were killed.

Government Reports Extensive Rebel Rocket Attacks

BK2009014389 Hong Kong AFP in English 1833 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Sept 19 (AFP)—Mujahidin gunners launched rocket attacks on at least eight cities including Kabul in Afghanistan's east and southeast over the last 48 hours, but casualties were light, a government spokesman said Tuesday [19 September].

In the capital, one rocket hit in the south of the city injuring two children in a house, while another crashed harmlessly into the grounds of Kabul University, the spokesman said.

He added that nine rockets had hit Kabul Monday, leaving two civilians dead and three injured, all of them in the suburbs.

The other cities hit in the last 24 hours were Charikar, some 20 miles (32 kilometres) north of Kabul, the defence posts around the eastern city of Jalalabad where four Afghan army personnel were reported injured, Gardeyz, Ghazni, Khowst, Qalot in Zabol Province and Qandahar airport garrison, the spokesman said.

The barrages killed two civilians and wounded another two in Charikar, killed two army men in Khowst, and left three civilians and three military men wounded in Qalot.

In each place, the army struck back causing heavy mujahidin casualties, the spokesman said.

The widespread rocket attacks coincided with an upsurge of mujahidin activity in the country's east in the last two weeks.

Meanwhile, continued Armed Forces operations were carried out in the hills surrounding Kabul, during which government troops seized 12 kilograms (26 pounds) of plastique explosives and two magnetic mines, the spokesman said.

The seizure of the explosives followed the discovery of four plastique bombs in the city on September 12 that were defused before they could explode.

Senior Kabul Commander Killed in Rebel Attack

BK2009022889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin attacked the Qandahar army garrison with long-range missiles early this week, killing an unknown senior

army commander of the Kabul regime and setting two arms depots on fire. The dead army commander is said to have commanded the military convoy that left from Herat Province last week and was residing in a hotel in the city.

15 Kabul Officers, 12 Soldiers Killed By Rebels

BK2009061889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin reportedly attacked Kabul forces on Charikar-Kabul Road, killing 10 Kabul army officers and capturing 55 soldiers. In another attack at a military post at (Tangi Abresham), they killed 12 Kabul soldiers and 5 officers, including their commander.

Bangladesh

Police Raid Dhaka University, Recover Weapons

BK2009074289 Hong Kong AFP in English 0733 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 20 (AFP)—Armed police in a predawn swoop Wednesday [20 September] on three dormitories of Dhaka University detained student activists and recovered a large quantity of firearms, police sources said.

The surprise raid followed two months of campus violence in Dhaka and other towns that left at least 11 students killed and more than 200 activists injured.

The downtown Dhaka University had been the scene of sporadic armed fighting between rival student groups that forced the cancellation of several scheduled examinations this week.

On Sunday night rival student groups fired more than 300 shots and threw home-made explosives from their sancturies in university dormitories in an apparent show of strength, university officials earlier said.

Police said hundreds of police took part in the three-hour room-to-room search of the troubled dormitories, detaining more than 70 suspects including some known student activists and seizing quantities of firearms.

No further details were immediately available.

The campus is the stronghold of the Jatiyatabadi Chatra Dal (JCD), the student wing of Begum Khaleda Zia's opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) which the university authorities Monday blamed for most of the recent student violence.

The BNP denied the allegations.

Informed sources said the JCD had split into two major factions and both groups had engaged in armed clashes on the campus for several weeks over leadership and dominance in the dormitories.

The JCD activists also fought with two other major student groups, the Bangladesh Chatra League (BCL), student wing of the opposition Awami League Party of Shaykh Hasina Wajed, and the Islami Chatra Shibir (ICS) of the rightwing Jamaat-i-Islami Party in the past two months.

Apart from the 11 dead, the clashes had forced the temporary closure of several universities and colleges nationwide.

Pakistan's Bhutto To Begin Visit 1 Oct

BK2009014889 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan arrives in Dhaka on the 1st of next month on a 2-day official visit to Bangladesh. She will discuss bilateral, regional, and international issues with President Ershad.

Ershad To Visit Philippines Beginning 9 Oct

BK1909130589 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] President Ershad goes to Manila on the 9th of next month on a 4-day state visit to the Philippines. He will be accompanied by Begum Raushan Ershad.

The visit takes place at the invitation of President Corazon Aquino of the Philippines. During the visit, President Ershad will have talks with President Aquino on bilateral, regional, and international issues of common concern.

Bangladesh and the Philippines enjoy excellent bilateral relations and cooperate closely in the international arena on many issues of mutual interest. The visit will contribute further to the consolidation of the existing friendly relations between the two countries.

The presidential entourage will also include Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud.

Minister Reports Rise in Export Earnings

BK2009011089 Hong Kong AFP in English 2054 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 19 (AFP)—Bangladesh registered a 7.11 percent rise in export earnings in the fiscal year ending June to 40 billion taka (1.27 billion U.S. dollars) compared to the previous year, Commerce Minister Abdul Sattar said Tuesday [19 September].

Mr. Sattar said the country's earnings from exports in the previous fiscal year totalled 38 billion taka (1.19 billion dollars).

In July, the first month of the current fiscal year, export earnings rose by 41.83 percent to 4.21 billion taka (131.6 million dollars) compared to 2.97 billion taka (92.8 million dollar) in July 1988, he added.

Mr. Sattar a
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Bangladesh's
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asked officials to explore increased interna-
kets for export of new goods along with
s traditional export items such as jute, tea,
kins, newsprint and readymade garments.

6,500 Chak

kma Refugees Return From India

BK19091310
1230 GMT 1

089 Dhaka Overseas Service in English
19 Sep 89

[Text] Six th
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housand and five hundred Chakma refugees
their homes in the hill tracts from across the
ng the month ending 22d of August last.

Quoting offic
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icial sources in Dhaka, the UNB [UNITED
BANGLADESH] says the local authorities
pt measures to rehabilitate the Chakmas
y after their return.

According t
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days in subhu

to the returnees, the Chakma refugees,
the Indian state of Tripura, are passing the
human conditions.

India

India-PRC

Commission Continues Deliberations

Meets 19 Sep

BK19091505
1430 GMT 1

589 Delhi Domestic Service in English
19 Sep 89

[Text] The f
meeting, whic
its deliberati
selves into tw
One group is
other is study

first ever India-China joint commission
ich began in New Delhi yesterday, continues
tions. Senior officials have divided them-
two groups to identify areas of cooperation.
is looking into the issues of trade while the
dying technical collaboration.

The 14-memb
trial establish

mber Chinese team will visit various indus-
ishments in the country before returning
home.

The visiting C
tions and trad
president, Dr
briefed Dr Sh
ment of bilate
Beijing's desi

Chinese minister of foreign economic rela-
rade, Mr Zheng Tuobin, called on the vice
Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma, in New Delhi. He
Sharma about the progress in the develop-
ateral relations between India and China and
sire to further strengthen the cooperation.

Meeti

eting Ends; Trade Protocol Signed

BK20091305
1230 GMT 20

589 Delhi Domestic Service in English
20 Sep 89

[Text] India
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a and China have agreed to strengthen bilat-
and expand economic and technical coopera-
have chalked out a series of concrete measures
ard.

The agreed
India-China J
today. The c

d minutes of the first-ever meeting of the
a joint commission was signed in New Delhi
commerce minister, Mr Dinesh Singh, and
his Chinese counterpart, Zheng Tuobin, signed the minutes at the end of the 3-day meeting. A trade protocol for the current year was also signed.

Under the agreement each country will increase its imports from the other. They will set up joint ventures in the two countries and explore the possibility of collaborating in third country projects. There will be greater technical collaboration and also a joint program in science and technology for the period 1989-1991.

The exchange of trade delegations will be promoted. Under the trade protocol, China is to import 1 million tonnes of iron ore during the current year. China has agreed to an Indian request to increase the supply of raw silk.

Indo-Sri Lankan Agreement on Pullout Outlined

BK1809090589 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] India and Sri Lanka today signed a joint communique which provides for the full implementation of the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement and on measures to ensure the safety and security of the Tamils and all ethnic groups in the Northeastern Province of the island nation. The communique signed by the Indian high commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr L.L. Mehrotra, and the Sri Lankan foreign secretary, Mr Bernard Tillakaratne, in Colombo this morning also provides for the setting up of a peace committee in the Northeastern Province to enable all political and ethnic groups to come together and to settle their differences through consultation, compromise, and consensus. It would help bring all the groups into the democratic process, thereby ending violence in the province. This will also lead to the improvement of conditions for the physical safety of all communities and help in the restoration of normalcy and contribute to the effective functioning of the Northeastern Provincial Council.

The communique says the first meeting of the peace committee is to be held within 3 weeks after its formation by Wednesday.

Observers in Colombo and New Delhi have viewed the signing of today's agreement as a major diplomatic breakthrough emerging from the talks between the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr Ranjan Wijeratne, in Belgrade earlier this month.

The joint communique underlines Sri Lankan assurance that they would take all measures for expeditious implementation of the devolution process, including the establishment of the provincial police force and an adequate administrative structure for the effective functioning of the Northeastern Provincial Council. The Sri Lankan side also said that it would take all measures to strengthen the civil administration for ensuring peace and normalcy to the Northeastern Province. The two sides have decided to set up a security coordination

group comprising the Sri Lankan minister for defense, the chief minister of the Northeastern Province, the Sri Lankan defense secretary and the General Officer Commanding [GOC] of the peacekeeping force [PKF] to watch the law and order situation in the Northeastern Province. The group would also suggest measures to ensure the safety and security of the inhabitants, including Tamils and all ethnic groups as the phased deinduction of the PKF and strengthening of the civil administration of the Northeastern Province proceed. It would also keep in view the recommendation of the peace committee relating to the security and safety of the people in the Northeastern Province. The joint communique provides that in view of the agreed measures for the safety and security in the Northeastern Province, the process of the deinduction of the peacekeeping force which had already recommenced on the 29th of July this year will be expedited. It has also been agreed that all efforts will be made to accelerate the deinduction of the peacekeeping force and complete its withdrawal by 31 December. According to the joint communique, India has stated that offensive military operations by the Peacekeeping Force will be suspended from 0600 [0030 GMT] on Wednesday, the 20th of this month. An observer group, comprising the Sri Lanka army commander and the GOC of the Peacekeeping Force, will report any violation of the cessation of hostilities and immediate consequential steps taken and also recommend further remedial action.

Briefing newsmen after signing of the communique in Colombo, the Indian High Commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr Mehrotra, said that the Sri Lankan Government has taken the responsibility to establish the peace committee consisting of all political groups and parties from the Northeastern Province. He described today's agreement as a triumph of goodwill.

The Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr Ranjan Wijeratne, has expressed his gratitude through the Indian envoy to the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, for being considerate to the Sri Lankan proposals.

The high commissioner said India looks forward to active cooperation of the Sri Lanka Government to ensure the success of the agreement enshrined in the present communique. He said that the agreement will remove the very great anxiety of both the countries. This communique, Mr Mehrotra said, has proved that through negotiations problems can be solved.

Tamil Groups, Jaffna Welcome Accord

BK1909033289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The joint communique signed by India and Sri Lanka yesterday has been widely welcomed in the Northeastern Province of the island republic. The Tamil groups, including the leader of the EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students], Mr Balakumar, in a statement issued in Jaffna assured the cooperation of his party for any efforts to bring real peace to the Tamils in the island.

Welcoming the communique, the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] political wing leader, Mr (Elango), expressed the hope that the Sri Lankan Government will keep its promise of devolving powers to the Northeastern Provincial Council.

As already reported, the joint communique provides for setting up by tomorrow a peace committee in the province. It will help all political and ethnic groups to come together and settle their differences through compromise, consultation, and consensus. It will also help them return to the democratic process, restore normalcy in the province, and contribute to the effective functioning of the Northeastern Provincial Council. The first meeting of the peace committee is to be held within 3 weeks after its formation. The communique also says that Sri Lanka will take all measures to expedite the devolution of power to the council.

A provincial police force will be raised and an adequate administrative structure for the effective functioning of the council will come into being.

India and Sri Lanka have also decided to set up a security coordination group to keep watch on the law and order situation in the province.

The Peacekeeping Force [PKF] will suspend all military offensive operations from 0600 tomorrow morning.

It has also been agreed that all efforts will be made to accelerate the deinduction of the PKF and complete their withdrawal by the 31st of December this year.

An observer group comprising the Sri Lankan Army commander and the GOC [General Officer Commanding] of the PKF will report any violation of the cease-fire and remedial steps will be taken immediately.

The people of Jaffna have also welcomed the announcement and hoped that with PKF suspending all military offensive from tomorrow, peace would prevail in the Northeastern Province before the force withdraws.

IPKF Commander Urges Cooperation

BK1909130089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The Indian Peacekeeping Force [IPKF] in Sri Lanka will suspend all its offensive military operations beginning from 0600 tomorrow morning. In an official announcement issued in Tricomalee this evening, the IPKF commander, Lieutenant General A.S. Kalkat, said the decision has been taken in accordance with the steps agreed upon between the Governments of Sri Lanka and India toward the restoration of peace and normalcy in the Northeastern Province. However, the IPKF will take appropriate action against any person or party

attempting to disrupt normal life and communal harmony. Action will also be taken against anybody found possessing or carrying weapons, grenades, and explosives illegally.

General Kalkat has called upon all the groups and people to cooperate in this task and contribute to ushering in an era of peace, stability, and progress in the region.

Commentary Views Agreement

BK2009112189 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Commentary by syndicated journalist S. Venkatanarayan]

[Text] The joint communique signed on Monday [18 September] last between India and Sri Lanka in Colombo needs to be welcomed as it may bring peace to the strife-torn Northeastern Province of the Indian Ocean island. According to the communique, the Indian Peacekeeping Force [IPKF] will suspend its offensive military operations with effect from today. New Delhi will also make all efforts to complete the withdrawal of its 42,000 troops from the island by the end of this year. It needs to be emphasized that India has agreed to stop the military operations and withdraw the peacekeeping force only after Sri Lanka has given adequate assurance that Colombo is doing all it can and it will do all it needs to implement the provision of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement of 29 July 1987. Under this agreement, Colombo is to grant adequate autonomy to the predominantly Tamil Northeastern Province in the island.

In the past few weeks Sri Lanka has conveyed to India that it is taking all possible steps to effectively implement the devolution process, including the setting up of the provincial police force and establishment of an adequate administrative structure. The final round of talks on this took place between the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and Mr Ranjan Wijeratne, Sri Lanka's foreign minister, at Belgrade.

The communique requires Sri Lanka to set up a peace committee from today, the day on which the IPKF is also stopping its military operations. The peace committee will include all political and ethnic groups living in the Northeastern Province. It is expected to help the Tamils, the Sinhalese, and the Muslims living in the province to come together to settle their differences through a process of consultation, compromise, and consensus, thus starting a democratic process and helping end violence to provide conditions for the physical safety and security of all the communities.

The first meeting of the peace committee is scheduled to take place by 11 October. The Sri Lankan Government has undertaken the task of bringing the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] into the peace process by making it agree to join the peace committee. If President Premadasa succeeds in his efforts to bring the LTTE to end the violence, it will certainly help to bring peace to the Northeastern Province, which has suffered a great deal during the 15 year old war that has been waged in that area.

It may be recalled that hours before Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi flew to Colombo to sign the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement with then-president J.R. Jayewardene, on 29 July 1987, LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran had met him in New Delhi and assured him that he would support the agreement. Had he stood by his word, a lot of bloodshed could have been avoided during these past 2 years. Refusal to surrender arms and violence resulted in a bloody armed confrontation between the IPKF and the LTTE causing over a 1,000 Indian soldiers and injuring about 2,500 Indian soldiers. [sentence as heard] If the LTTE again violates the cease-fire, the communique provides for immediate consequential action by the IPKF and the Sri Lankan Army. The observer group, consisting of the Sri Lankan Army and the overall commander of the IPKF, will also recommend further remedial action to the Sri Lankan president.

There will also be a security coordination group comprising the Sri Lankan minister of state for defense, the chief minister of Northeastern Province, the Sri Lankan defense secretary, and the overall commander of the IPKF in Sri Lanka. The group will see that peace and tranquility prevails in the province.

The Indian Peacekeeping Force was sent to Sri Lanka 26 months ago under the agreement signed in July 1987 primarily to bring peace in the strife-torn island and it made great sacrifices in order to conduct itself with dignity and restraint. Unfortunately, the presence of the peacekeeping force in the island became a political issue and led to some tension and misunderstanding between India and Sri Lanka, which have been great traditional friends for over 2,000 years.

People who wish for peace and tranquility in South Asia sincerely hope that the joint communique which was signed between India and Sri Lanka on Monday will bring a gory chapter in Sri Lanka's Northeastern Province to a happy end. It is hoped that the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front] will also call off its violent agitation in the interest of Sri Lanka's 60 million people.

Gandhi, Defense Minister Address Army Commanders

BK1909162589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] The prime minister has said the peacekeeping force [PKF] [in Sri Lanka] must be replaced by an arrangement which would ensure that the law and order situation in the Northeastern Province is not adversely affected and the safety and security of the Tamils are ensured. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was addressing the combined conference of the commanders of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force in New Delhi today. He reiterated India's desire to de-induct the peacekeeping force.

The prime minister congratulated the officers and jawans [soldiers] of the three services for their excellent performance in Sri Lanka and the Maldives.

Referring to his talks with the Maldives president, Mr Abdul Gayoom, Mr Gandhi said that the president expressed appreciation of the Indian Armed Forces in thwarting the invasion by mercenaries.

The prime minister categorically stated that India does not aspire to become a regional power nor does it want to be described as one. He was referring to certain comments in this regard. Opposing the concept of regional power, Mr Gandhi said we should not restrict our thinking to the region. We should think beyond our vicinity and see what contribution India can make on global issues.

Mr Gandhi said India's security environment and threat perception are dependent not only on the military situation, but also on the developing economic and political situations. Unless India is economically strong, it cannot have a strong defense.

Mr Gandhi also cautioned the country to be aware that there is going to be increasing economic pressure from outside. This is a major challenge before us, he added.

Stressing the need for a harmonious balance between military and economic strength, Mr Gandhi said it should be evolved carefully and judiciously. It is to meet the growing aspirations of our people that the government decided to increase the devolution of power and strengthen the democratic processes at the grassroots level by giving responsibility and power to the people at the town and village level to manage their local affairs.

Referring to the recent developments in the Indo-Pakistan relations, the prime minister said that India wants to defuse the tension in Siachen, but not at the cost of national interest.

Mr Gandhi asked the Armed Forces to deploy the scarce resources efficiently and stretch every rupee to obtain optimum results. He, however, made it clear that while India has to exercise maximum economy, it will not be at the cost of its defense preparedness and security. In the context he referred to the recent success in the Prithvi and Agni [surface to surface missiles] missiles program. Congratulating the scientists and officers of the defense research and development organization, Mr Gandhi said the successful Agni launch was a morale booster not only for the Armed Forces but for the whole nation.

The prime minister also emphasized a need for self-sufficiency in defense research and said that for our next generation weapons, we must depend more and more on our own capability than on other countries. The DRDO—Defense Research and Development Organization—should be able to develop our own electronic warfare equipment. Long term and future needs on the battlefields should be assessed and the DRDO given the task in time instead of merely going in available in the world market.

for the latest items

Mr Gandhi wanted the conference t based in the future to include other a with security matters. He also stresse be continuous interaction with the e finance ministries.

to be more broad- agencies concerned d that there should xternal affairs and

The prime minister said the natio officers and jawans who are meeting with devotion and dedication. In th country may have to induct highly qu the services and more modern metho ment would be required.

n is proud of the various challenges coming years the alified persons into ds of man manage-

Addressing the conference, the def K.C. Pant, hoped that the agreement Lanka would help resolve the eth minorities, especially the Tamils, wou a peaceful atmosphere.

nse minister, Mr now signed in Sri ic crisis and the ld be able to live in

Referring to the large-scale military dence of Pakistan's involvement in te sive activities in Kashmir and Punjab commanders to ensure that the troo and western fronts remained even m coming weeks.

exercise and evi- rrorist and subver- he asked the army s on the northern ore vigilant in the

Mr Pant said the 1990-95, five-year be ready soon. A new defense public being set up to coordinate defense ex will enable India to secure a reaso market for weapons and equipment Asia and Africa.

efense plan would sector company is ports. He said this able share of the in areas like West

Earlier the three service chiefs present of the security, environment, defense the modernization program.

d their perception preparedness and

Pakistan Senate Scored on Dispu ed Territories

BK2009145089 Delhi Domestic Servi e in English
1430 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] India has taken strong except on to the reported resolution adopted by the Pakistan enate on Kashmir and Siachen. An official spokesma told newsmen in New Delhi today that the resolutio is not in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Simla greement. He said it does not conform to the efforts tha have been exerted by India and also by the Pakista Government for normalizing the mutual relations in he interest of the people of the two countries and of pe ce and stability in South Asia.

Informed sources said that the Pakis an Senate is dom- inated by the opposition IJI [Islami mhoori Ittehad—Islamic Democratic Alliance]. The ru ing party has only 3 members in the 87 member house

Iran

Economic Minister Attending IMF Meeting in U.S.

NC2009060889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Mr Mohsen Nurbakhsh, our country's minister of economic affairs and finance, left for Washington this morning at the head of a high-ranking economic delegation to attend the joint annual session of the World Bank and the IMF, as well as the conference of economic and finance ministers of developing countries known as the Group of 24.

Our minister of economic affairs and finance is accompanied by a delegation composed of a number of Majlis deputies, officials of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, the Foreign Ministry, and the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Central News Unit reports that the joint IMF-World Bank session and the Group of 24 ministers' conference will meet for 6 days, from 23 to 28 September, in Washington in the presence of the ministers of economic affairs and finance, and governors of the central banks of 151 countries. Discussions will be held on the world economy, debt strategy, the international monetary system, the rise in world inflation, developments in international trade, and other important world economic and financial affairs.

The Group of 24 reflects and defends the position of the developing countries regarding the IMF and the World Bank.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has a $1.329 billion investment in the World Bank. Thus, it ranks 15th among the 151 member countries.

Missile Production With PRC Discussed

JN1909203989 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 18 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Special military sources have told AL-ITTIHAD that Iran is currently holding discussions with the PRC on joint production of the M9-11 surface-to-surface missile series, which has a range of 300 to 450 km. The sources disclosed that Iran is currently producing a new ballistic missile named Iran-130, similar in capability to the Soviet SCUD-B missile. Iran is currently producing a family of unguided surface-to-surface missiles including the "'Iqab," which has a range of 45 km and is derived from the Chinese Type-83 missiles; "Nazi'at," with a range of 90 km; and "Shahen," with a range of 20 km.

Financial Talks With French Official Viewed

LD1909201489 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Mr Francois Scheer, first deputy foreign minister of France, who arrived in Iran 2 days ago in order to conduct a new round of talks concerning differences over financial issues between Iran and France, left Tehran this morning.

Before leaving, he described his visit to Iran and the talks he had held with Iranian officials as fruitful and expressed the hope that in the next round of talks, which will take place next month, arrangements will be made for regular meetings at short intervals. Mr Va'ezi, the first [Iranian] deputy foreign minister for America and Europe, talked to our reporter about the outcome of the discussions held with the French first deputy foreign minister.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Mr Va'ezi, as the first deputy foreign minister responsible for following up relations between Iran and France, please tell us about the latest results of the last round of the talks between French officials and officials of the Islamic Republic. At what level are relations between the two countries?

[Va'ezi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful, this trip took place on the initiative of the foreign minister of France in a (?note) which he sent to Dr Velayati. Today, in the three rounds of the talks that we had—some 5 hours—we discussed various issues, including solving the issue of financial differences between the two countries that has existed for the past 10 years. We reached agreement and decided that, with political resolve, all the problems that stand along the way be solved as soon as possible.

We made a decision, a pledge that on a monthly basis these issues be discussed in Tehran and Paris until all problems are resolved. In connection with our political, economic, and cultural bilateral relations, we had some discussions and we reached certain agreements.

[Reporter] Mr Va'ezi, in connection with the third part of the payment of the French debt to Iran, you referred to a phased program. How will it be implemented and over how long?

[Va'ezi] This debt should be sorted out in the context of a number of other differences in connection with the implementation of work on a power generator and [words indistinct] atomic energy. Both sides have decided that we will make every effort to bring the matter to a conclusion within the next 6 months, meaning the third part of the debt, the interest which has accumulated on those debts, and the money we owe to Framatom, a big French company in atomic energy. [end recording]

Talks Said 'Constructive'

LD1909134489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1049 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Yesterday, our foreign minister met with the French deputy foreign minister and that country's representative on the committee for resolving financial

disputes between Iran and France. The French official's trip to Tehran, following the publication of the blasphemous book "The Satanic Verses," which led to the departure of the ambassadors of EC member countries, including France, is considered France's most significant initiative for resolving some of the problems in bilateral relations.

The French deputy foreign minister's meeting with Iranian officials took place within the framework of a policy that has been pursued by Paris for some time. At any rate, the Islamic Republic's undeniable role in the Persian Gulf and the Middle East region, especially in Lebanon, could no longer be ignored by France. In that connection, French President Francois Mitterrand was one of the first EC leaders after Hashemi-Rafsanjani's election as Iran's president to send a message of congratulations. Mitterrand expressed hope that the two countries' ties would improve.

Despite the brevity of the French deputy foreign minister's visit, constructive talks were held to solve mutual problems. Our country's foreign minister, Dr Velayati, said in his meeting with the French official, while stressing the Islamic Republic's known stand regarding the establishment and maintenance of ties with foreign countries. While maintaining our principles, we welcome the expansion of ties and we hope that the French Government will make the necessary effort so that the financial differences between the two countries are resolved as soon as possible and so that a final agreement is reached in that regard.

The financial disputes to which Velayati referred are related to the repayment of Iran's $1 billion loan to a consortium of French companies involved in the enrichment of uranium and the construction of nuclear powerstations. Although $630 million of the loan, which was granted before the victory of the Islamic Revolution, has been repaid in two installments, it has led to disagreements between the two countries over the manner and amount of interest accruing to the loan.

There is no doubt that France's practical measures and steps toward the repayment of the loan have removed one of the obstacles to mutual relations and it will demonstrate France's seriousness in restoring bilateral ties. In any case, apart from financial disputes—which it seems will not last very long in the framework of political understandings—what can bring about the conditions for improving relations is a correct understanding and reasonable assessment of the other side.

Relations between Iran and France after the victory of the Islamic revolution have been a test of the Islamic Republic's attachment to its conditions, positions, and principles, which have maintained their inviolability in the most serious and sensitive circumstances. The Islamic Republic has never concealed its wish for healthy relations, without hints of hegemony-seeking and within the framework of the two countries' interests. However, that can determine and at the same time guarantee that there is respect for the Islamic Republic's values, avoidance of adventurism in the two countries' relations, and preservation of mutual respect and interests.

Syrian Foreign Minister Continues Visit

Meets With Economy Minister

JN1909071089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran—An official round of talks was held at the Iranian Foreign Ministry last night between the Syrian and Iranian delegations.

Participating in the talks on the Syrian side were Faruq al-Shar', minister of foreign affairs; Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; Diya'ullah al-Fattal, assistant foreign minister; Ahmad Mar'i, assistant agriculture minister; and Dr 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Subay'i, assistant planning minister.

Attending the talks on the Iranian side were Economy and Finance Minister Dr Mohsen Nurbakhsh, Commerce Minister Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji, Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Shaykholeslam, Iranian Ambassador in Damascus Mohammad Hasan Akhtari and Syrian Charge d'Affaires in Tehran Ahmad Zaynu also attended the talks.

The talks dealt with means of promoting relations between the two countries in all fields. It was agreed to form committees for joint cooperation in the oil, industrial, construction, foreign trade, agricultural, transportation, scientific, technical, information, and tourism fields.

Holds Talks With Velayati

LD1909214789 Tehran IRNA in English 2125 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sep 19, IRNA—The foreign ministers of Iran and Syria held a second round of talks here Tuesday evening.

Expansion of mutual ties, regional issues, the imminent visit to Iran of the Syrian president, as well as ways to establish long-term and strategic cooperation between the two countries were discussed in Tuesday's private talks between 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Faruq al- Shar'.

Political observers attach great importance to this round of talks in light of the regional issues, particularly the situation in Lebanon.

The Syrian foreign minister arrived here Monday at the head of a delegation.

Meanwhile, Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Shaykholeslam and his Syrian counterpart Diya'ullah al-Fattal held talks on ways to facilitate consular affairs between the two countries.

Many Iranians travel to Syria each year for pilgrimage to Muslim holy shrines in that country.

According to press reports last week, Syria is one of the countries which Iran is considering to abolish visa formalities with.

In another development Tuesday, Minister of Commerce Abd al-Hoseyn Vahaji met with his Syrian Foreign Trade Minister Muhammad al-'Imadi and discussed expansion of trade and economic ties.

Rafsanjani Said To Oversee Terrorist Operations

JN1609090889 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 13 Sep 89 pp 1, 15

[Text] Geneva, (INA)—The Iranian opposition organization Mojahedin-e Khalq has shed more light on Iranian official departments' role in organizing kidnappings and terrorist operations in Lebanon and other parts of the world.

In a statement distributed by its office here yesterday, the organization said Iran's main terrorist activity is now concentrated on Lebanon more than on any other country and that Iran's terrorist activities are run by the "Lebanon Committee" which is headed by Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, chief of the Third Bureau in the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

The statement affirms that Mohammad Rafsanjani is, in turn, supervised by his brother 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the regime.

The statement says other individual departments play the role of gathering and coordinating information and referring it to the "Lebanon Committee," which does not have the authority to make independent decisions.

The statement says information-gathering departments include Iranian cultural centers in the region which fall under the Ministry of Islamic Guidance.

These centers recruit terrorist elements and provide them with false passports, funds, and arms, the statement adds.

The statement explains that the Revolutionary Guard forces in Lebanon, especially those under the supervision and authority of Sayyed Makki, who resides in Syria almost permanently, are chiefly responsible for giving military training to terrorists and planning terrorist operations. They are also responsible for investigations and other operations of a terrorist nature.

The statement says terrorists receive their initial military training locally in the Lebanese territory under the control of the Syrian forces or the Revolutionary Guards. They are then sent to Iran for more training on terrorist and espionage operations.

Papers Criticize Khorasani Call for Saudi Ties

LD1909154689 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 19 Sep 89

["Khorasani Under Attack for Favoring Ties With Riyadh"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Sep 19, IRNA—Today's remarks by head of the Majlis (parliament) Foreign Relations Committee Sayyed Raja'i Khorasani about the necessity of re-establishment of relations with Saudi Arabia triggered reaction of two evening dailies here.

In response to Khorasani's question as to "how long should our people be deprived of visiting the two holy shrines," KEYHAN printed part of the Riyadh Government's past record and proposed that it was the Saudi regime which should answer this question of Raja'i.

Covering part of Khorasani's pre-agenda speech in today's open session of the Majlis, KEYHAN said Saudi agents slaughtered hundreds of Iranian pilgrims and deprived Iranian people from paying homage to the holy shrines.

"With regard to these facts should Iran still volunteer for resumption of ties with the Saudis?" KEYHAN questioned.

"Head of the Majlis Foreign Relations Committee seems to have forgotten that it was Saudi Arabia which severed ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran," ETTELA'AT, another evening daily said as it criticized Khorasani's remarks.

Riyadh severed ties with Tehran in a bid to pressure Iran when the Iraqi regime needed more political support. "Saudi Arabia acted as an effective economic, political and propaganda support of Iraq," ETTELA'AT pointed out.

The daily suggested that it is the Saudi Government and not Iran which should listen to Khorasani's remarks.

UNIIMOG Mission Extended 6 Months

LD1909173989 Tehran IRNA in English 1618 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sep 19, IRNA—The mission of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) in Iran and Iraq will be extended for another six months, visiting UN Assistant Secretary General Marrack Goulding announced here today.

Goulding, in a meeting with Minister of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics Akbar Torkan, gave a report on UNIIMOG activities as well as the outcome of his visit to Baghdad.

Economic activities and reconstruction of the southern cities of Khorramshahr and Abadan in Iran, as well as Al-Faw and Basra in Iraq are signs of peace and cessation of hostilities, Goulding told Torkan.

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territory, and implementation of the

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Rebel Radio Say

JN1809120289 Ba
18 Sep 89

ys Iran Army, Guards Clash

aghdad INA in English 1130 GMT

[Text] Baghdad, S
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Sep 18, INA—Iran's Army troops and
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TEHRAN TIMES INTERNATIONAL
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ARTICLE 5

1979-CONSTITUTION

During the occultation of the Wali al-'Assr (May God hasten his reappearance), the Wilayah and leadership of the Ummah devolve upon the Just ('Adil) and Pious (Muttaqi) Faqih who is fully aware of the circumstances of his age, courageous, resourceful, and possessed of administrative ability, and recognized and accepted as leader by the majority of the people. In the event that no Faqih should be so recognized by the majority, the leader, or the Leadership Council, composed of Fuqaha' possessing the aforementioned qualifications, will assume the responsibilities of this office in accordance with Article 107.

1989-AMENDMENT

During the occultation of the Wali-al-'Assr (May God hasten his advent) the Wilayah and leadership of the Ummah is entrusted to a Just (Adil) and Pious (Muttaqi) Faqih, fully aware of the circumstances of his age, and courageous, resourceful and possessed of administrative ability who will assume the responsibilities of this office in accordance with Article 107 below.

ARTICLE 57

1979-CONSTITUTION

The powers of government in the Islamic Republic are vested in the legislature, the judiciary, and the executive powers, functioning under the supervision of the Wilayat al-'Amr and the Leadership of the Ummah, in accordance with the forthcoming articles of this constitution. These powers are independent of each other, and liaison between them is provided by the president.

1989-AMENDMENT

The ruling powers in the Islamic Republic are the Legislative, the Judiciary, and the Executive Branch which function under the supervision of the Wilayat-al-Amr and the Leadership of the Ummah, in accordance with the forthcoming articles of the constitution. These powers are independent of each other.

ARTICLE 60

1979-CONSTITUTION

The functions of the executive, except in the matters that are directly placed under the jurisdiction of the leadership by the constitution, are to be exercised by the president, the prime minister, and the ministers.

1989-AMENDMENT

Except for matters directly entrusted to the Leadership by virtue of this constitution, the executive branch functions through the president and government ministers.

ARTICLE 64

1979-CONSTITUTION

There are to be two hundred seventy members of the National Consultative Assembly. After every ten years, in case of increase in the country's population, representatives will be added to each constituency at the rate of one per 150,000 additional persons. The Zoroastrians and Jews will each elect one representative, Assyrian and Chaldean Christians will jointly elect one representative, and Armenian Christians in the North and those in the South of the country will each elect one representative. If the population of these minorities increases, after every ten years, they will be given additional representation at the rate of one per 150,000. Regulations concerning elections will be determined by law.

1989-AMENDMENT

The Islamic Consultative Assembly shall have 270 members which with respect to human, political and geographic factors may increase by not more than 20 for each ten-year period pursuant to the date of the national referendum on this amendment to the constitution. Zoroastrians and the Jewish community will each elect one representative, and the Armenian Christians in the North as well as those in the South of the country will each elect one representative. Regulations concerning constituencies and (increase in) number of representatives will be according to statute.

ARTICLE 69

1979-CONSTITUTION

The deliberations of the National Consultative Assembly must be open, and full minutes of them made available to the public by the radio and the official gazette. A closed session may be held in emergency conditions, if it is required for national security, upon the requisition of the prime minister, one of the ministers, or ten members of the Assembly. Legislation passed at a closed session is valid only when approved by three-fourths of the members in the presence of the Guardian Council. After emergency conditions have ceased to exist, the minutes of such closed sessions, together with any legislation approved in them, must be made available to the public.

1989-AMENDMENT

The Islamic Consultative Assembly shall meet in open sessions making full minutes of them available to the public by the state radio and the official government gazette. A closed session may be held in emergency conditions if warranted by national security considerations, upon the request of the president or in response to the motion of any cabinet minister or at least ten members of the Assembly. Legislation passed at a closed session is valid only when approved in the presence of the Guardian Council by three-fourths of representatives in the presence of the Guardian Council. When emergency conditions have ceased to exist, the minutes of such closed sessions, together with any legislation approved in them, must be made available to the public.

ARTICLE 70

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The president, the prime minister, and the ministers have the right to participate in the open sessions of the Assembly either collectively or individually. They may also have their advisers accompany them. If the members of the Assembly deem it necessary, the president, the prime minister, and the ministers, are obliged to attend. (Conversely), whenever they request it, their statements are to be heard. Any invitation to the president to attend the Assembly must be approved by a majority of the members."

1989-AMENDMENT

The president, and the ministers have the right to participate in the open session of the Assembly either collectively or individually. They may also have their advisers accompany them. If members of the Assembly should deem it necessary, the president, and the ministers are obliged to attend, and upon their request they shall be given audience by the Assembly.

ARTICLE 85

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The right of membership is vested with the individual, and is not transferable to others. The Assembly cannot delegate the power of legislation to an individual or committee. But whenever necessary, it can delegate the power of legislating certain laws to its own committees, in accordance with Article 72. In such a case, the laws will be implemented on a tentative basis for a period specified by the Assembly, and their final approval will rest with the Assembly."

1989-AMENDMENT

Membership at the Assembly is vested with the individual, and is not transferable. The Assembly cannot delegate the power of legislation to an individual or committee. But whenever necessary, it can delegate the power of legislating certain laws to its own committees in accordance with Article 72, in which case such laws will be implemented tentatively for a period specified by the Assembly, their final approval resting with the Assembly.

Also the Assembly may, consistent with Article 72 of this constitution, assign relevant committees the responsibility for permanent ratification of articles of association of government-affiliate agencies, companies or government institutions to relevant committees, or invest the authority on the cabinet. In either case government acts may not be inconsistent with the dictates of the official religion in the country or the text of the constitution

which question shall be established by the Guardian Council according as anticipated in Article 96 of this constitution.

In addition government acts shall not be against the common laws and other general laws in Iran and same shall be brought to the knowledge of the speaker of the Assembly for his perusal while calling for its enactment indicating also that the law in question is not inconsistent with other laws in the country.

ARTICLE 87

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The Council of Ministers, after being formed and presented to the Assembly and before all other business, must obtain a vote of confidence from the Assembly. During its incumbency, it can also seek a vote of confidence from the Assembly on important and controversial issues."

1989-AMENDMENT

The president must obtain a vote of confidence for his cabinet after their nomination before addressing himself to any other business. During his incumbency, too, he shall seek a vote of confidence from the Assembly on important and controversial issues.

ARTICLE 88

1979-CONSTITUTION

"Any person may lodge a complaint with the Assembly against the procedures of the representatives of the Assembly and the judicial branch, where the complaint pertains to one or more of the representatives of the Assembly, an adequate reply must be given. Where the complaint pertains to the government or the judicial branch the complaint shall be referred to the responsible ministry for investigation."

1989-AMENDMENT

The president shall report to the Islamic Consultative Assembly for answering questions any time called to answer by at least one-fourth of the total members of the Assembly in relation with any of his duties, doing so within one month from the date of the call unless offering a justifiable excuse in the opinion of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. Also a cabinet minister shall do the same if for answering any question in relation with his duties, doing so within 10 days from the call unless offering a justifiable excuse in the opinion of the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

ARTICLE 89

1979-CONSTITUTION

"Representatives of the Islamic Assembly can, in certain cases which they deem necessary, interpolate the Council of Ministers or any cabinet minister in the Assembly. The minister can be questioned in the Assembly if at least 10 members of the Assembly so demand in writing.

A minister or the prime minister must appear before the Assembly not later than 10 days after his presence is required in Assembly. He must answer the questions put to him by the members of the Assembly and secure their vote of confidence.

The Assembly can pass a vote of no-confidence in the Council of Ministers or the minister if the latter fails to appear before the Assembly to answer questions. If the Assembly passes a no-confidence of the Council of Ministers or the minister, that person shall be removed from office.

Whether it is the prime minister or a minister who does not receive a vote of confidence, in both cases, that person cannot become a member of the Council of Ministers established immediately after that."

1989-AMENDMENT

1. Representatives at the Islamic Consultative Assembly may interrogate the cabinet ministers or any one cabinet minister when they deem it necessary. An interrogation will proceed if requested by at least ten representatives of the Assembly. The cabinet or the cabinet minister involved shall report to the Majlis within 10 days from the date requesting the interrogation, and shall ask for a vote of confidence from the Assembly. Upon default of the cabinet minister or the minister involved the same representatives of the Assembly shall offer any further explanation in relation with their request for interrogation, and subject to the decision of the Assembly a vote of no-confidence will be issued. In the event a vote of confidence is not issued by the Assembly the cabinet or the minister in question shall be dismissed, and in both cases the ministers interrogated by the Assembly may not be a member of the cabinet ministers forming immediately after their dismissal.

2. In the event at least one-third of members of the Islamic Consultative Assembly should interrogate the president in relation with his executive responsibilities he shall have to report to the Assembly within one month from the date the interrogation is requested, and shall offer adequate explanation to the Assembly. In the event two-thirds of members of the Assembly should issue a vote of no-confidence to the president after hearing the statements of pros and cons the proceedings will be notified to the leadership for implementation of section 10 of Article 110 of the constitution.

ARTICLE 91

1979-CONSTITUTION

"With a view to safeguard the Islamic ordinances and the constitution, in order to examine the compatibility of the legislations passed by the National Consultative

Assembly with Islam, a council to be known as the Guardian Council is to be constituted with the following composition:

A. Six Adil Fuqaha, conscious of the present needs and the issues of the day, to be selected by the leader or the Leadership Council, and

B. Six jurists, specializing in different areas of law, to be elected by the National Consultative Assembly from among the Moslem jurists nominated by the Supreme Judicial Council."

1989-AMENDMENT

With a view to safeguarding the Islamic ordinances and the constitution, and ensure the consistency with Islam of legislations passed by the Islamic Consultative Assembly a council to be known as the Guardian Council shall be formed with the following composition.

1. Six Adil Fuqaha knowledgeable about the needs and issues of the day, to be selected by the leader, and

2. Six Jurists, specialized in different areas of law, to be elected by the Assembly from a group of jurists introduced to the Islamic Consultative Assembly by the head of the judiciary branch.

ARTICLE 99

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The Guardian Council has the responsibility of supervising the election of the president of the republic, the elections for the National Consultative Assembly, and the direct recourse to popular opinion and referenda."

1989-AMENDMENT

The Guardian Council has the responsibility for supervising the election of the experts for the Leadership Council, the election of the president, the elections for the Islamic Consultative Assembly, and national referendums.

ARTICLE 107

1979-CONSTITUTION

"Whenever one of the Fuqaha possessing the qualifications specified in Article 5 of the constitution is recognized and accepted as Marji' and leader by a decisive majority of the people—as has been the case with the eminent Marji' Taqlid and Leader of the Revolution, Ayatullah al-Uzma Imam Khomeini—he is to assume (the office of) the Wilayat al-Amr and all the functions arising therefrom. Otherwise, experts elected by the people will review and consult among themselves concerning all persons qualified to act as Marji' and leader. If they discern outstanding capacity for leadership in a certain Marji', they will present him to the people as their leader, if it is not possible, they will appoint either three or five Maraji' possessing the necessary qualifications for leadership and present them to the people as members of the Leadership Council."

1989-AMENDMENT

After the demise of the great leader of the universal Islamic Revolution, and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeini, who was elected as leader and the "Marja" by the large majority of the people (in 1979) the task of designating a leader shall rest with the Experts Council to be elected by the people. Members of the Experts Council shall deliberate on the qualification of all Fuqaha' who meet the requirements of Article Five and Article 109 of the constitution and in the event they should find one of them to be better versed in topics of religious jurisprudence, or in political and social issues, or to be especially notable for any of the qualifications mentioned in Article 109 of the constitution shall elect him as leader, and superiority to others lacking in any single Faqih, they shall elect one of them. The leader thus elected by the Experts Council shall be vested with the power of Wilayati-Amr and with all responsibilities thereto appertaining. The leader is equal with the rest of the people before all laws.

ARTICLE 108

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The law setting out the number and qualifications of the experts (mentioned in the preceding article), the mode of their election, and the code of procedure regulating the sessions during the first term must be drawn up by the Fuqaha' on the first Guardian Council, passed by a majority of votes and then finally approved by the leader of the revolution. The power to make any subsequent change or a review of this law is vested with the Assembly of Experts."

1989-AMENDMENT

The law setting out the number and qualification of the experts, the mode of their election, and the code of procedure regulating the sessions during the first term must be drawn up by the Fuqaha' of the first Guardian Council, passed by a majority vote and then finally approved by the leader of the revolution. The power to make any subsequent changes or revisions in that law is vested with the Experts Assembly.

ARTICLE 109

1979-CONSTITUTION

The qualifications and characteristics of the leader or members of the Leadership Council:

1. Eligibility as regards the scholarship and virtues essential for religious leadership and issuing religious decrees.

2. Political and social insight, courage, capability and sufficient administrative abilities.

1989-AMENDMENT:

The leader must have the following qualifications:

1. Scholastic qualification for issuing religious decrees.

2. Justice and piety such as needed for leading the Moslem Ummah.

3. Proper social and political insight, resourcefulness, courage, administrative capacity and sufficient potency for assuming leadership.

In the event more than one person should meet the above requirements the one person deemed to be better qualified than others will be given priority.

ARTICLE 110

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The duties and responsibilities of leadership:

1. Nomination of the jurisprudents of the Guardianship Council.

2. Appointment of the highest judicial authority of the country.

3. In the capacity of commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces:

A. Appointment and dismissal of chief of the joint staff.

B. Appointment and dismissal of the chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guardian Corps (IRGC).

C. Establishment of a Supreme National Defense Council consisting of seven members as follows:

1. The president

2. The prime minister

3. The minister of defense

4. Chief of the joint staff

5. Chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guardian Corps
6. And two advisers appointed by the leader.

D. Appointment of the senior commander of three forces as proposed by the High Defense Council.

E. Declaration of war and peace and mobilization of forces as proposed by the High Defense Council.

4. Signing the credentials of the president after election by the people. The competence of the candidate for presidency as regards assuring the qualifications set forth in the present law should be confirmed by the Guardianship Council before elections and in the first presidential term, by the leader.

5. The dismissal of the president due to considerations of national interest after such decision has been issued by the Supreme Court affirming the president's disobedience of official duties or if the Assembly has voted for the political incompetence of the president.

6. Granting amnesty to the condemned or reducing their sentences within the framework of Islamic principles and under the recommendation of the Supreme Court."

1989-AMENDMENT:

The leader has the responsibility and authority to:

1. Delineate the general policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran after consultation with the National Exigency Council.

2. Supervise the execution of the policies of the system with a view to ensuring their proper administration.

3. Issue decrees for national referendums.

4. Assume the task of the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces.

5. Declare war and peace or mobilize forces.

6. Appoint, (A) The Fuqaha of the Guardian Council, (B) The highest ranking official of the Judiciary branch, (C) Head of the Iranian radio and television network, (D) Chief of the staff of the Armed Forces, (E) Commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps, and (F) Ranking commanders of the three branches, and dismiss or otherwise accept resignation of all above-named officials.

7. Resolve differences between the three branches of the government and harmonize their relations.

8. Resolve the problems which afflict the system and which may not be solved by conventional methods, doing so in consultation with the National Exigency Council.

9. Endorse presidential credentials after his election by the people. (The qualification of presidential candidates must be confirmed by the Guardian Council for consistency with this constitution, and the qualifications of the candidates for first term in office must be confirmed by the leader.)

10. Dismiss the president where the interest of the nation should warrant such dismissal, doing so on the strength of the judgement of the Supreme Judiciary Council the latter declaring the president's miscarriage of his duties, or on the strength of the verdict of the Islamic Consultative Assembly declaring his incompetency for office consistent with Article 89 of this constitution.

11. Pardon condemned persons or commute their sentence in accordance with the principles of the Islamic faith and upon recommendations of the head of the Judiciary branch.

The leader may delegate part of his duties to another person.

ARTICLE 111

1979-CONSTITUTION

In case the leader or any member of the Leadership Council should prove unable to carry out his official duties or should lose one of the qualifications set forth in Article One Hundred and Nine, that person will be removed from office. The determination of such incompetence is the responsibility of the experts mentioned in Article One Hundred and Eight. Regulations for the meeting of the experts for consideration and execution of this article shall be determined in the first session of the Assembly of Experts.

1989-AMENDMENT

Whenever the leader should become incapable of fulfilling his constitutional duties, or lose any of the qualifications mentioned in Articles 5 and 109, or if any time it should be known that he did not meet some of the qualifications mentioned in the two articles he shall be dismissed according to the decision of the experts as specified in Article 108.

In the event of the death, or resignation or dismissal of the leader, the experts shall nominate a new leader within the shortest possible time, and as long as a new leader has not been appointed a council comprising of the president, head of the Judiciary Council and a Faqih of the Guardian Council, upon decision of the Exigency Council, shall temporarily undertake the duties of the leader. In the event during their temporary function any of them should be unable to fulfill his duties for whatsoever reason another person upon decision of the majority of the Fuqaha' in the council shall be installed in his place.

The Council shall take action on items 1, 3, 5, and 7, sections D, E, and F of Item 6 of Article 110 upon the decision of three-fourths of members of the National Exigency Council.

If the leader should be unable to perform the duties of his office due to sickness or any other situation, during that time the said Council shall undertake his tasks.

ARTICLE 112

1979-CONSTITUTION

The leader or the members of the Leadership Council are equal to all other citizens in the eyes of law.

1989-AMENDMENT

Upon the order of the leader the National Exigency Council shall meet any time the Guardian Council should judge a proposed law bill of the Islamic Consultative Assembly to be against the principles of the Shariat Law or the constitution, and where the Assembly should be unable to meet the expectations of the Guardian Council because of (clashing) national interests. The Council shall also form for debating any issue forwarded to them by the leader and shall carry out any other responsibility as described in this constitution.

The permanent and substitute members of the Council shall be appointed by the leader. The regulations for the Council shall be formulated by the Council members subject to the approval of the leader.

ARTICLE 113

1979-CONSTITUTION

The president is the highest official position of the country after the position of leader. The president is responsible for implementing the constitution, regulating the three branches of government and the directing of the Executive Branch except in cases which relate directly to the leader.

1989-AMENDMENT

The next highest ranking official in the country, after the leader, is the president who is responsible for the execution of the constitution except for matters which directly relate to the person of the leader.

ARTICLE 121

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The president must take the following oath and affix his signature to it at a session of the National Consultative Assembly in the presence of the head of the Supreme Court, and the members of the Guardian Council of the Constitution:

"In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful,

I, as president, swear, in the presence of the noble Qoran and the people of Iran, by God, the Exalted and Almighty, that I will guard the official religion of the country, the order of the Islamic Republic and the constitution of the country, that I will devote all my capacities and abilities to the fulfilment of the responsibilities that I have assumed, that I will dedicate myself to the service of the people, the honor of the country, the propagation of religion and morality, and the support of truth and justice, refraining from every kind of arbitrary behavior, that I will protect the freedom and dignity of all citizens and the rights that the constitution has accorded the people, that in guarding the frontiers and the political, economic, and cultural independence of the country I will not shirk any necessary measure, that, seeking help from God and following the Prophet of

Islam and the Infallible Imams (Peace be upon them), I will guard, as a pious and selfless trustee, the authority vested in me by the people as a sacred trust, and transfer it to whomever the people may elect after me."

1989-AMENDMENT

The president must take the following oath and affix his signature to it at a session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly in the presence of the head of the Judiciary branch and the members of the Guardian Council of the Constitution:

"In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful.

I, as president, swear, before the Holy Qoran and the people of Iran, swear by God, the Exalted and Almighty, that I will guard the official religion of the country, the system of the Islamic Republic and the constitution of the country, that I will consecrate all my capacity and ability to the fulfilment of the responsibilities that I have assumed, that I will dedicate myself to the service of the people, that I will endeavor to elevate my nation, promote religion and morality, support truth, justice, and equity, that I will abstain from all forms of despotism, that I will protect the freedom and dignity of all citizens and the constitutional rights of the people, that I will not spare any effort to guard the frontiers and protect the political, economic, and cultural independence of this country, that seeking help from God and following the example of the Prophet of Islam and the Infallible Imams (Peace be upon them), that as a pious and selfless trustee, I will preserve the power vested in me by the people as a sacred trust, and that I will transfer it to whomever the people may elect after me."

ARTICLE 122

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The president, within the limits of his powers and duties, is responsible to the people. The manner in which any violation of this responsibility is to be investigated will be determined by law."

1989-AMENDMENT

The president, within the limits of his powers and duties, and by virtue of this constitution or other laws is responsible to the people, to the leader and the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

ARTICLE 124

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The president is obliged to sign legislation approved by the Assembly or the result of a referendum, after the (related) legal procedures have been completed and it has been communicated to him. After signing, he must forward it to the responsible authorities for implementation."

(The above article was deleted in its entirety and substituted by the following article in the amendment):

1989-AMENDMENT

The president may have assistants for the conduct of his constitutional duties. The first assistant of the president shall be vested with the responsibility to administer the affairs of the cabinet ministers and to coordinate the function of other assistants, subject to the approval of the president.

ARTICLE 126

1979-CONSTITUTION

"Statutes and governmental protocols will be communicated to the president after being approved by the Council of Ministers. If he deems them contrary to law, he may return them to the Council of Ministers for review, stating his reasons for doing so."

1989-AMENDMENT

(This article was integrated with Article 138 and the following article was inserted in its place):

The president is personally responsible for national planning and budget and state employment affairs and may entrust the task to another.

ARTICLE 127

1979-CONSTITUTION

"Whenever the president considers it necessary, he may attend and preside over the meeting of the Council of Ministers."

1989-AMENDMENT

(This article was deleted in its entirety and superseded by the following):

In special circumstances, subject to the approval of cabinet ministers, the president may appoint one or more special representatives with specific authority in which case the decisions of his representative(s) will have the same force and effect as those of the president and the cabinet ministers.

ARTICLE 128

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The president signs the credentials of ambassadors being sent to foreign countries and receives the credentials presented by the ambassadors of foreign countries."

1989-AMENDMENT

Ambassadors shall be appointed upon recommendation of the foreign minister and approval of the president. The president signs the credentials of (Iranian) ambassadors, and also receives the credentials of foreign ambassadors.

ARTICLE 130

1979-CONSTIT

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1989-AMEND

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ARTICLE 131

1979-CONSTI

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1989-AMEND

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ARTICLE 132

1979-CONST

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of the absence or illness of the president, his
ll be performed by a council called the Provi-
residential Council, consisting of the prime
the speaker of the National Consultative
, and the head of the Supreme Court, provided
mstances excusing the president last no longer
months. Similarly, in case of the dismissal of
dent, or in case the term of a president has
nd due to some difficulties a new president is
ed, the duties of the president will be exercised
ouncil.

ENDMENT

dent submits his resignation to the leader and
inue to perform his normal functions as long as
ation has not been approved.

e 1979-Article was deleted and superseded by
dment. Certain concepts of Article 130 of the
stitution were incorporated with Article 131,
having been rewritten for consistency).

STITUTION

death, resignation, illness lasting longer than
ths, dismissal of the president, or similar cir-
rs, the Provisional Presidential Council is
arrange for a new president to be elected
naximum of fifty days. During this period, it
out all the functions and powers of the presi-
t calling for referendum."

NDMENT

nt the president should decease, or be dis-
if he should resign or be absent or taken ill for
two (consecutive) months, or where his term
as ended and the new president has not been
to particular impediments or to other pecu-
nstances his first assistant shall assume the
ity and authority of the president subject to
al of the leader pursuant to which a council
of the Speaker of the Consultative Assembly,
Judiciary Branch, and first assistant to the
will ensure that a new president is elected
days. In the event of the death the first
the president or where he is reasonably
perform such task, or when the president
have a first assistant, the leader shall appoint
rson in his stead.

STITUTION

period when the functions of president are
the Provisional Presidential Council, neither
can the government be interpellated nor can a vote of no-confidence be passed against it, nor can any step be undertaken for a review of the constitution."

1989-AMENDMENT

As long as the responsibilities and authority of the president are delegated to his first assistant or to another person appointed consistent with Article 131 the cabinet ministers may not be interrogated, nor may they be given a vote of no-confidence nor may any action be taken for amending the constitution or holding a national referendum.

ARTICLE 133

1979-CONSTITUTION

"Ministers will be appointed upon the proposal of the prime minister with the approval of the president, and will be presented to the Assembly for a vote of confidence.

The number of ministers and the jurisdiction of each will be determined by law."

1989-AMENDMENT

Cabinet ministers are nominated by the president and introduced to the Consultative Assembly for a vote of confidence. A new vote of confidence will not be needed when the Assembly has been disbanded and reconvened. The number of cabinet ministers and their authority shall be according to statute.

ARTICLE 134

1979-CONSTITUTION

The prime minister is the head of the Council of Ministers. He supervises the work of the ministers and takes all necessary measures to coordinate the decisions of the government. With the cooperation of the ministers, he determines the program and policies of the government and implements the laws. The prime minister is responsible to the Assembly for the actions of the Council of Ministers.

1989-AMENDMENT

The president is the head of the Council of Ministers who coordinates the decisions of the ministers and the cabinet, and who with the help of the cabinet ministers delineates the policies of the government and carries out the same.

In the event of discrepancies or upon interference in the constitutional duties of government agencies the decision of the cabinet ministers based on the proposal of the president shall be binding except where warranting an interpretation of or modification in the laws. The president is responsible to the Consultative Assembly for the actions of the cabinet ministers.

ARTICLE 135

1979-CONSTITUTION

The prime minister retains his position as long as he enjoys the confidence of the Assembly. The resignation of the government is to be submitted to the president, and the prime minister is to continue in his office until a new government is appointed.

1989-AMENDMENT

Cabinet ministers shall continue in office unless they are dismissed, or given a vote of no-confidence in the wake of their interrogation (at the Consultative Assembly), or as a result of a motion for a vote of no-confidence on them.

The resignation of cabinet ministers or any single cabinet minister shall be submitted to the president, and the cabinet ministers shall continue to function in their office until such time as a new administration is installed.

The president may appoint a caretaker minister to function for not more than three months at any government ministry with a vacant ministerial post.

ARTICLE 136

1979-CONSTITUTION:

"Whenever the prime minister wishes to dismiss a minister and appoint another in his place, both the dismissal and the appointment must be approved by the president, and a vote of confidence must be obtained from the Assembly for the new minister. In case half of the members of the Council of Ministers are changed after the government has received its vote of confidence from the Assembly, the government must seek a fresh vote of confidence from the Assembly."

1989-AMENDMENT

The president may dismiss cabinet ministers subject to a vote of confidence for the new ministers. In the event after a vote of confidence of the Consultative Assembly to the cabinet half of the cabinet ministers should have been replaced, the president must obtain a new vote of confidence for the entirety of his cabinet ministers.

ARTICLE 137

1979-CONSTITUTION

"Each of the ministers is responsible for his duties to the Assembly, but in matters approved by the Council of Ministers as a whole, he is also responsible for the actions of the others."

1989-AMENDMENT

Every cabinet minister is responsible to the president and to the Consultative Assembly for the functions of his office, and for the actions of others in relations with the decisions of the cabinet ministers.

ARTICLE 138

1979-CONSTITUTION

"In addition to instances in which the Council of Ministers or a single minister is authorized to frame procedures for the implementation of laws, the Council of Ministers has the right to lay down rules, regulations, and procedures for performing its administrative duties, ensuring the implementation of laws, and setting up administrative duties. Each of the ministers also has the right to frame regulations and issue circulars in matters within his jurisdiction and in conformity with the decisions of the Council of Ministers. However, the content of all such regulations must not violate the letter or the spirit of the law."

1989-AMENDMENT

The cabinet as well as each individual minister may be commissioned to draft executive regulations of government acts. The cabinet is entitled to propose and pass laws for the performance of administrative duties, for ensuring conformance with and execution of laws and for regulating the administrative affairs. Each cabinet minister, too, is severally entitled to formulate regulations and issue directives within the domain of his responsibilities and consistent with the laws passed by the cabinet, without such regulations and directives being against the word and spirit of other laws.

The cabinet may delegate any portion of their tasks under this article to commissions composed of several ministers, the decisions of which shall be binding upon endorsement of the president. Such decisions as well as government regulations and ratifications of said commissions shall also be brought to the knowledge of the speaker of the Consultative Assembly while being communicated for execution, so that in the event he should find them to be against other laws, he may send same to the cabinet ministers stating the reason/reasons why that law should be revised.

ARTICLE 140

1979-CONSTITUTION

"Allegations of common crimes against the president, the prime minister, and the ministers will be investigated in common courts of justice with the knowledge of the National Consultative Assembly."

1989-AMENDMENT

The hearing of civil charges against the president and his assistants and cabinet ministers will lie with the ordinary tribunals of the common courts after notifications to the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

ARTICLE 141

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The president, the prime minister, ministers, and government employees cannot hold more than one government position, and it is forbidden for them to hold any kind of additional post in institutions of which all or a part of the capital belongs to the government or public institutions, to be a member of the National Consultative Assembly, to practise the profession of attorney or legal adviser, or to hold the post of president, managing director, or membership of the board of directors of any kind of private company, with the exception of cooperative companies affiliated to the government departments and institutions. Teaching positions in universities and research institutions are exempted from this rule. Whenever necessary, the prime minister may temporarily hold charge of certain ministries."

1989-AMENDMENT

The president, his aides, ministers, and government employees may not: hold more than one government position, have any additional post in institutions whose capital is partly or wholly owned by the government, be a member of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, practise law or legal counselling, be president, managing director, or member of the Board of Directors of any private company except for government cooperatives. Teaching positions in universities and research institutions are exempted.

ARTICLE 142

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The assets of the leader or members of the Leadership Council, the president, the prime minister, and ministers, as well as those of their spouses and offspring, are to be examined before and after their term of office by the Supreme Court, in order to ensure they have not increased in a fashion contrary to law."

1989-AMENDMENT

The assets of the leader, the president and his aides, cabinet ministers and those of their wives and children shall be surveyed immediately before and after their tenure to ensure that they have not increased unreasonably.

ARTICLE 157

1979-CONSTITUTION

"In order to fulfil the responsibilities of the judiciary, a council to be known as the Supreme Judicial Council will be constituted, which will be the highest judicial body entrusted with the following responsibilities:

1. Creation of the necessary organizations for the administration of justice to fulfil the responsibilities specified in Article 156.

2. Preparation of bills on judicial matters appropriate to (the form of government of) the Islamic Republic.

3. Employment of just and worthy judges, their dismissal, appointment, transfer, their assignment to particular duties, promotions, and carrying out similar administrative duties, in accordance with the law."

1989-AMENDMENT

In order that the responsibilities of the Judiciary branch may be carried out in Judiciary, administrative and executive areas a just and resourceful Mujtahid, well versed in Judiciary affairs, shall be elected as head of the Judiciary branch for a period of five years who shall be the highest Judiciary authority in the state.

ARTICLE 158

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The Supreme Judicial Council is to consist of five members:

1. The chief of the Supreme Court.

2. The prosecutor-general.

3. Three judges of proven justice and possessing the capacity of Ijtihad, to be elected by all the judges of the country.

The members of this Council shall be elected in the manner to be prescribed by law, for a period of five years, and nothing defers them from being re-elected. The qualifications for the candidates and the electors will be specified by law."

1989-AMENDMENT

The Judiciary branch is responsible to,

1. Institute a necessary organizational structure for the Justice Ministry in accordance with its responsibilities under Article 156.

2. Compose Judiciary law bills consistent with the Islamic Republic.

3. Employ just and well-qualified judges, dismiss and install them, change the venue of their service, assign them to their posts and decide on their promotions and on similar administrative matters according to statute.

ARTICLE 160

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The matter [as published] of justice owes responsibility in all matters concerning the relationship between the Judiciary, on the one hand, and the Executive and Legislative, on the other hand. He will be elected from among the individuals proposed to the prime minister by the Supreme Judicial Council."

1989-AMENDMENT

The minister of justice is responsible for all matters concerning the relationship between the Judiciary and the Executive and Legislative. He shall be elected from among nominates introduced to the president. The head of the Judiciary Council may delegate full authority to the minister of justice in financial and administrative areas and for employment of Justice Ministry personnel except for judges in which case the minister of justice shall have the same responsibility and authority as those possessed by other cabinet ministers and the highest-ranking government executives.

ARTICLE 161

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The Supreme Court is to be formed for the purpose of supervising the correct implementation of the laws by the courts, ensuring uniformity of judicial procedure, and fulfilling any other responsibilities assigned to it by law, on the basis of regulations to be established by the Supreme Judicial Council."

1989-AMENDMENT

The Supreme Court is to be formed for the purpose of supervising proper implementation of the laws by the courts, ensuring uniformity of judicial procedure, and fulfilling any other responsibilities assigned to by the head of the Judiciary.

ARTICLE 162

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The chief of the Supreme Court and the prosecutor-general must both be just Mujtahids well-versed in judicial matters. They will be nominated by the Leadership for a period of five years, in consultation with the judges of the Supreme Judicial Council."

1989-AMENDMENT

The chief of the Supreme Court and the prosecutor general must be Mujtahids and well versed in judicial matters. They shall be appointed by the head of the Judiciary Branch in consultation with the judges of the Supreme Court for a five-year term in office.

ARTICLE 164

1979-CONSTITUTION

"A judge cannot be removed, whether temporarily or permanently, from the post he occupies except by trial and proof of his guilt, or in consequence of a violation entailing his dismissal. A judge cannot be transferred or redesignated without his consent, except in cases when the interest of society necessitates it, that too, with a unanimous vote of the members of the Supreme Judicial Council. The periodic transfer and rotation of judges will be in accordance with general regulations to be laid down by law."

1989-AMENDMENT

A judge may not be temporarily or rmanently suspended except by trial and proof of is guilt and in consequence of an offence warranting is dismissal. A judge cannot be transferred or installed a new position without his consent, unless warranted the best interests of the society pending the decision the head of the Judiciary Branch and upon consultation ith the head of the Supreme Judicial Council and pecutor general. Periodic relocation of judges shall e according to statute.

ARTICLE 173

1979-CONSTITUTION

"In order to investigate the complaint grievances, and objections of the people with respec to government officials, organs, and statutes, a court ll be established to be known as the court of administrate justice (under the supervision of the High Judicia Council). The jurisdiction, powers, and mode of operaon of this court will be laid down by law."

1989-AMENDMENT

To hear the complaints, grievances, and bjections of the people against government officials, orans and statutes and in order that justice may be dea out a court of administrative equity shall be establhed under the supervision of the head of the Judici ry Branch. The jurisdiction, powers, and mode of operaion of this court will be according to statute.

ARTICLE 174

1979-CONSTITUTION

"In accordance with the right of the Juiciary to supervise the proper conducting of affairs and the correct implementation of laws by the adminisrative organs of the government, an organization wil be constituted under the supervision of the Supreme Judicial Council to be known as the National General Inspectorate. The powers and duties of this organizatin will be determined by law."

1989-AMENDMENT

In accordance with the right of the Judic iary to supervise the proper conducting of affairs and the correct implementation of laws by the administrative organs an organization will be instituted under the supervision of the head of the Judiciary Branch to be known as the National General Inspectorate, with statutory powers.

ARTICLE 175

1979-CONSTITUTION

"The freedom of broadcasting and propagation, in accordance with the Islamic criteria, must be assured in the mass media (radio and television). The media are to be administered under the joint supervision of the three

powers: the Judiciary (Supreme Judicial Council), the Legislative, and the Executive—in a manner to be determined by law."

1989-AMENDMENT

The freedom of expression in the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran (state radio and television networks) must be guaranteed in keeping with the Islamic criteria and the best interests of the country. Appointment and dismissal of the head of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran rests with the leader, and a council composed of representatives from the president, head of the Judiciary Branch and speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (two representatives from each) shall supervise the function of the organization. The policies and the manner of managing the organization and its supervision shall be according to statute.

ARTICLE 176

(ADDITION TO THE 1979-CONSTITUTION)

In order to safeguard national interests, and protect the Islamic Revolution, and the territorial integrity and national sovereignty a 'Supreme Council on National Security' presided over by the president shall be formed with the responsibility to:

1. Formulate defense and national security policies within the bounds of general policies determined by the leader.

2. Harmonize state programs in areas relating to politics, and to collection of intelligence reports, as well as social, cultural, and economic activities in relation with general defense and security policies.

3. Exploit material and intellectual resources in the country for countering threats against the country.

The council shall be composed of heads of the three branches of the government, chief of the Supreme Command Council of the Armed Forces, the official in charge of National Budget and Planning Affairs, two representatives from the leader, minister of foreign affairs, minister of the interior, and minister of information, a cabinet minister according as the situation may warrant, and the highest ranking officials in the Armed Forces and the Sepah (Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps).

Consistent with its duties the Supreme Council on National Security shall form sub-committees such as Defense Commission, and National Security Commission, the president or a member of the Supreme Council on National Security as appointed by him presiding all sub-committees.

The scope of responsibility and authority of each sub-committee shall be according to statute, and their organizational structure shall be as approved by the Supreme Council on National Security. The decisions of the Supreme Council on National Security shall take effect upon endorsement of the leader.

ARTICLE 177

(ADDITION TO THE 1979-CONSTITUTION)

The text of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran may be revised as warranted by the circumstances and in the following manner:

The leader issues an edict to the president after consultation with the National Exigency Council stipulating the amendments or additions to be made by the Council for revising the text of the Constitution, such Council to be composed of:

1. Members of the Guardian Council.
2. Heads of the three branches of the government.
3. Permanent members of the National Exigency Council.
4. Five members of the Experts Council for Leadership.
5. Two representatives of the leader.
6. Three cabinet ministers.
7. Three representatives from the Judiciary Branch.
8. Ten deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly.
9. Three university professors.

The mode of the work of the Council and the terms and conditions governing their work shall be according to statute. The decisions of the Council when endorsed by the leader shall be valid if approved by an absolute majority vote in a national referendum.

The provisions of Article 59 of the Constitution shall not apply to national referendums for the people's vote on the draft of amended constitution.

The following articles of the constitution are unalterable:

- The articles which purport the Islamic character of the political system.
- The articles founded on the Islamic criteria and the religious faith of the people.
- The articles indicating the goals and aspirations of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- The articles purporting the republican system of the government in Iran as well as those relating to the Vilayat-Amr, the Imamate of Ummah, those stipulating the administration of the affairs of the country based on national referendums, and those indicating the official religion in Iran.

Pakistan

Tensions Increase Between Bhutto, Opposition

BK2009075389 Hong Kong AFP in English 0623 GMT 20 Sep 89

[By Sami Zubeiri]

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 20 (AFP)—Tensions are running high between the government of Benazir Bhutto and the opposition-led administration of Punjab after the unprecedented arrests of two federal investigators by provincial police.

Punjab police arrested the two agents of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) in an early morning raid Monday [18 September] at their residence, official sources said.

The FIA agents, investigating reports of alleged tax evasion by a beverage bottling firm in Lahore, had earlier raided the firm.

Press reports quoting police said the two officials would be charged with rioting, attempted murder and harassment following a complaint by a factory driver.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN (APP), quoting FIA Director Qamruddin, said the arrests were in retaliation for a raid the FIA team had conducted to check exise duty evasion by the firm, M/S Riaz Beverages, which bottles Pepsi Cola.

The factory's directors reportedly include a Punjab provincial minister and two sons of late General Akhtar Abdul Rehman, who was number two to late President Mohammed Ziaul Haq.

Gen. Rehman, who was tipped as the former president's possible successor, died with General Zia in a mysterious plane crash in August last year and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto took over in December after subsequent polls.

His sons are now active along with other pro-Zia elements in opposing Ms. Bhutto.

The arrests followed charges made earlier this week by Punjab's Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif that the central government was using the FIA to harass leaders of his opposition Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI) by opening probes into allegations of income tax and government duty evasions.

The FIA is the country's top investigation agency while the Punjab police, independent of central authority, come under the provincial government's authority. Observers said such an arrest had never happened before despite differences between the country's four federating units and Islamabad.

Relations between Ms. Bhutto and Baluchistan's government were also troubled, they said. Baluchistan Chief Minister Nawab Akbar Bugti in a recent interview challenged the central government's authority to collect revenues from the natural gas reserves in his province.

As the confrontation reached the bureaucracy, the state-run PAKISTAN TIMES Tuesday said the central government was taking seriously the "seditious" activities of three high-ranking federal government officers.

Quoting Information Minister Javed Jabbar, it said these officers "in collaboration with the government of Punjab" were spearheading a cell created to launch a vilification campaign against Islamabad.

On Monday, a cabinet meeting took a "serious view of the nefarious activities" of these high officials, who "in utter violation of decorum and decency" of their service rules have been instrumental in authoring articles "The Fast Fading Light" and "Preparing for Thousand Years of Subjugation", the paper said.

The articles contained "dirty remarks" about Ms. Bhutto and a number of her ministers, "in an obvious attempt to incite people to rebel" against the government, it quoted the minister as telling newsmen here.

Stressing that the trio, to be identified soon, would be penalised for "seditious activities," the minister said adding that "there is a limit to tolerance."

Replying to a question as to why he was disclosing the contents of an article yet to be circulated, the minister said it was being done "to guard the people against the heinous plan to subvert democracy and pave the way for an authoritarian rule."

His statement also follows reports that the IJI was mustering support of MP's [members of Parliament] to move a no confidence motion against the Bhutto government.

Punjab Chief Minister Sharif was in Karachi Monday for talks with leaders of the Muhajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), which despite joining Ms. Bhutto's coalition government had strained relations, and he was also trying to win over another group of independent MP's from the federally administered tribal areas (FATA).

Parliamentary sources said the IJI might either bring a direct motion against Ms. Bhutto or challenge her government to defeat on any bill during the National Assembly's current session.

36 Students Injured in Karachi Clashes 19 Sep

BK1909153589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Two rival groups of students clashed in Karachi as a result of which 36 students were injured. The injured students were taken to Martyr Abbasi Hospital for the treatment. Most of the students were discharged after receiving medical attention. However, seven students are being kept under observation.

Muhajir Qaumi Movement Chairman Azim Ahmad Tariq has accused the Jammat-i-Islami and its students wing of creating law and order problem in Karachi. Addressing a press conference in Karachi today he said that the Jammat had lost the people's confidence in the last elections.

Bhutto's Husband Said Importing Tainted Milk

BK1809025089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0205 GMT 18 Sep 89

[By Shamim Ur Rahman]

[Text] Karachi, Sept 18 (AFP)—The husband of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has become involved in a growing controversy over the importation of Frico brand Dutch dried milk, allegedly contaminated in the wake of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in the Soviet Union.

The opposition Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI) said Sunday [17 September] that Mr. Asif Ali Zardari had influenced customs officers to release the controversial consignment.

The opposition-led government in the country's biggest province, Punjab, took out front-page advertisements in the country's newspapers warning the public that the imported Frico milk was unsafe.

The advertisements, paid for by the IJI, cautioned people against "enemies of the nation, enemies of the people and enemies of public health."

Meanwhile, a local customs chief denied that Mr. Zardari had anything to do with the imports or their release.

The skimmed powdered milk was manufactured in Holland in June 1986, two months after the Chernobyl reactor accident which caused widespread radiation contamination.

The milk was imported from Singapore and press reports here said Singapore had rejected the consignment.

The milk was imported by Karachi-based companies between September and October last year and arrived here in four consignments weighing a total of 496.6 metric tons.

Customs authorities here withheld its release pending an investigation of the customs "intelligence wing's reports that the milk powder was contaminated."

A chemical analysis by the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) showed a level of radioactivity 22 percent higher than the limit set by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Mohammed Ashraf Ismail, the milk's importer, filed an appeal in the Sind High Court, which ordered customs in April to decide the case "in a fair and impartial manner." Mr. Ismail argued that the goods were perishable.

The consignment was released on June 4, after "careful studies" had convinced customs that "it was fit for human consumption," customs collector Mohammad Sulaiman Khan said.

The PAEC had said the milk could be consumed after dilution, he added.

Mr. Khan said that "at no stage Mr. Zardari had influenced" him to release the consignment. He stressed that "we found it was not correct to hold up the consignment."

Mr. Zardari's name was first connected to the milk in mid-June in Parliament when IJI leader Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain blamed him for "promoting corruption."

Mr. Hussain charged that Mr. Zardari "ensured smooth distribution" of 50,000 bags of milk powder for babies despite reports that it was contaminated and could cause cancer.

Ms. Bhutto's arch rival and IJI chief Nawaz Sharif charged at a public meeting in Lahore last week that Mr. Zardari was "playing with the lives of the innocent" by allegedly assisting the clearance of the milk.

Ordering a ban on the sale and possession of the milk, Punjab Chief Minister Mr. Sharif has asked officials in the province to seize all stocks of the Frico milk within seven days.

Mr. Zardari could not be contacted directly but officials of the ruling Pakistan Peoples Party have described the allegations he is involved as a "slander campaign" against Ms. Bhutto.

As the IJI launched a media campaign, the Commerce Ministry issued a separate denial that the milk was imported by any member of the Bhutto family.

The prime minister herself said in a recent interview with the local magazine NEWSLINE that she had received an IJI "master plan" to defame her government for the alleged involvement of her in-laws.

Opposition Leader Sees Gandhi-Bhutto 'Conspiracy'

BK1609111789 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Lahore, Sept 2—Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain, a prominent Muslim Leaguer and leader of IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] parliamentary party in the National Assembly, has claimed that the People's Party government has hatched a conspiracy putting at stake the country's independence and solidarity as an attack on Kahuta [Nuclear] plant was being planned in collaboration with India, just to gain support for its dwindling popularity at home.

In a statement issued on Saturday, the IJI leader said, the nefarious plan was formulated during Prime Minister Benazir's talks with her Indian counterpart Rajiv Gandhi in Islamabad, and both had agreed to implement the plan at an "opportune" time. He expressed the view that both

the prime ministers nov
menting this dangerous now feel that time is ripe for imple-
tain preliminaries have ous plan, and in this connection cer-
ave already been initiated.

"In order to consolid
create conducive atmo olidate her power at home, and to
in the forthcoming el mosphere in India for Rajiv victory
Bhutto and Indian Prir elections, Prime Minister Benazir
them the required sup Prime Minister feel the plan can give
upport", he alleged.

The Pakistani prime m
enhance her political e minister, he said, was very keen to
be ensured by promu al power, which, she thought, could
Emergency could only nulgating emergency in the country.
situation is created, nly be promulgated when the warlike
meant for that purpos , he said, and added the plan was
ose.

Chaudhry Shujaat Hu
ment this dangerous p Hussain said that in order to imple-
ordered last week as s plan, 24-hour air defence alert was
between the two countas a first step. Creation of tension
another part of the pl antries and taking it to the extreme is
plan, he added.

He felt that the objecti
the people in the name ctive is to play with the sentiments of
so as to gain their supp me of the defence of the motherland,
consolidate her positi pport for Benazir government and to
ition.

Minister Says No C Change in India, Afghan Policy

BK1809143589 Islam 1400 GMT 18 Sep 89 mabad Domestic Service in Urdu 89

[Text] The Senate se
afternoon. On a point session resumed in Islamabad this
said his statement m t of order, Senator Mohsin Siddiqui
September] was dist made in the house on Sunday [17
chairman appealed t torted by the press. On this, the
media to make genuin to the representatives of the mass
ne reporting of the house proceedings.

On a point of orde
Foreign Minister Sal ler of Senator Tariq Chowdhury,
house that there is no ahabzada Yaqub Khan assured the
on India and Afghani change in Pakistan's foreign policy
that in today's session nistan. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said
country's foreign pol n he would make a statement on the
posal made on the to olicy, which will be based on a pro-
opic: inclusion in the agenda.

Bhutto Reaffirms Su upport for Afghan Interim Regime

BK2009033289 Islam 0200 GMT 20 Sep 89 mabad Domestic Service in Urdu 9

[Text] Prime Minis
Pakistan will contin ter Benazir Bhutto has said that
Afghan interim gove ue for the present to support the
REUTER news agenc rnment. In an interview with the
the interim governm cy, she said: While we recognize that
do believe that it i ent is not broad-based enough, we
flexibility for expans s still the best framework with a
mujahidin, Afghan p ion and for inclusion of Iran-based
inside Afghanistan. refugees, and the people still living

The prime minister said: We have urged our friends in the Afghan interim government, and will continue to do so in future, that they broaden their base to include commanders based inside Afghanistan and to make public their internal and foreign policies.

Benazir Bhutto said it would be premature to speak about the question of the return of Zahir Shah, the former king of Afghanistan.

About the recent U.S. contacts with Zahir Shah, the prime minister said it was aimed at winning support for the interim government.

Navy Chief Leaves for UK, Netherlands Visits

BK1809082089 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] The chief of naval staff, Admiral Yasturul Haq Malik, left Islamabad today for London on an official visit to Britain. Later he will visit the Netherlands.

Sri Lanka

Government Communique on Restoration of Peace

BK1809114289 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] A government communique states that it has been the consistent position of the government that the elimination of terror and the restoration of peace and normalcy is a vital requirement for the progress and stability of Sri Lanka. The government has always worked toward the achievement of this objective.

The ongoing security operations have become necessary only to prevent and bring under control acts of violence against the people and destruction to property. This is a duty cast upon the security forces during a period of an emergency. If the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] and their associate, the DJV [Deshapremi Janatha Viyaparaya], communicate their willingness to respond positively to the repeated call of the government for the restoration of peace and normalcy, then there will be no need for the forces to continue their ongoing security operations.

The government is prepared to set up a committee to monitor the effective maintenance of the cessation of violence. It is evident that the current situation is being exploited by unidentified armed groups for their own purposes. A positive response by the JVP and the DJV to the cause of peace and normalcy will enable the identification of such groups.

It is the honest desire of the government to ensure the participation of the JVP and all others, who are outside the mainstream of politics, in the all-party conference. This will be a forum for them to present any proposal. The government will provide adequate security, protection, and facility for such participants.

70 Killed, Buildings Set Afire by JVP Rebels

BK1609155889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, security forces found 52 more bodies in the central parts of the country, raising the death toll to 70 in the continued JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] violence. According to agency reports, a number of government buildings were also set on fire in the past 3 days. The bodies were found from several villages in central Kandy District, about 90 km northeast of Colombo.

Prime Minister Leaves for Commonwealth Meeting

BK1709115789 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Prime Minister and Finance Minister D.B. Wijetunge left the island today to participate at this year's Commonwealth finance ministers meeting in Kingston, Jamaica. He is scheduled to meet the Board of Governors of the IMF and World Bank in Washington D.C. [passage omitted]